

Report of events 2020-2021

One-Day Webinar on "Employability Avenues Available for Persons with Disabilities in the IT Sector"

Date:03-06-2020**Venue:** Online (Google Meet)

A National Level Webinar on "Employability Avenues Available for Persons with Disabilities in the IT Sector" was organized on 3rd June 2020. The event witnessed the participation of over 300 individuals from various states across India, who joined the session through Google Meet (https://meet.google.com/pih-coah-kaa).

Mr. Shiva Jayagopal, Chairman of WinVinaya Foundation, Bangalore, served as the esteemed resource person. In his address, he emphasized the importance of developing employability skills among persons with disabilities (PWDs) to meet the evolving demands of the IT sector. He also provided valuable insights into job opportunities, skill development programs, and inclusive hiring practices in the industry.

The webinar served as a significant platform for empowering participants with information on how to bridge the skill gap and prepare for careers in the information technology sector.





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Report of the Activities of the "Online e-Quiz on RPWD Act" Date: 02-07-2020

An Online e-Quiz on the *Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPWD) Act, 2016* was conducted on 2nd July 2020 using Google Forms. The initiative aimed to raise awareness and enhance understanding of the provisions and significance of the RPWD Act among individuals in the education sector.

A total of **1002 participants** from various states across India actively participated in the quiz. E-certificates were issued to those who successfully completed the e-Quiz.

This awareness-building activity proved to be a valuable tool for disseminating knowledge about the legal rights and entitlements of persons with disabilities as outlined in the RPWD Act.

Google Form Link:

 $\underline{https://docs.google.com/forms/d/15CtYreo6LF681SvW9RAoeKYS7h2JPSfrI-892pQ4VEM}$





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"Online e-Quiz on Fundamentals of Computers - Level I"

Date: 30-07-2020 & 31-07-2020 **Mode:** Online (Google Forms)

The Centre for Differently Abled Persons, Bharathidasan University, organized an Online e-Quiz on "Fundamentals of Computers – Level I" on 30th and 31st July 2020, with the objective of assessing and enhancing basic computer literacy among participants.

The quiz was conducted through **Google Forms** and was open to participants across India. The initiative aimed to encourage individuals, especially beginners, to evaluate their understanding of essential computer concepts in an engaging and accessible format.

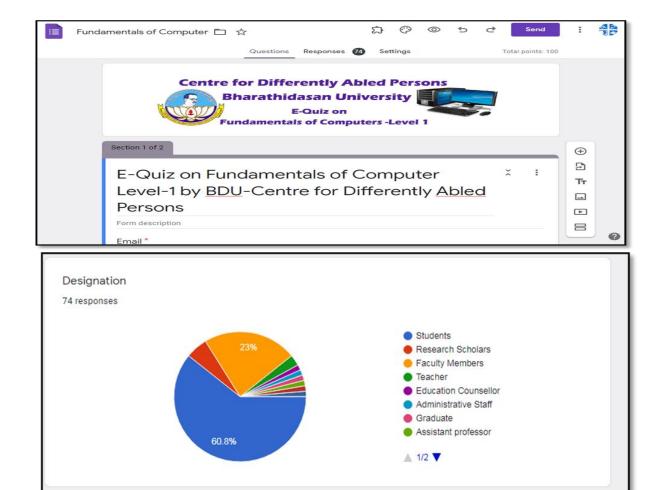
A total of **74 participants** from various states participated in the e-Quiz. On successful completion of the quiz, **e-Certificates** were automatically issued to participants who met the required performance criteria.

The quiz served as a valuable learning reinforcement tool, particularly during the pandemic period, offering a flexible and inclusive learning opportunity.

Quiz Access Link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/18FTDm6mfokA5ODH-vpQcWOmoq0ktivY5oewwPVzJz5g

This initiative reflects the Centre's ongoing efforts to promote **digital literacy and inclusive online learning platforms** for students and learners from all backgrounds.





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"Online e-Quiz on Fundamentals of Computers - Level II"

Date: 05-08-2020 & 06-08-2020

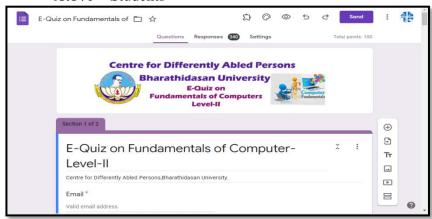
Mode: Online (Google Forms)

As part of its digital learning initiatives, the **Centre for Differently Abled Persons**, Bharathidasan University, conducted an **Online e-Quiz on "Fundamentals of Computers – Level II"** on **5th and 6th August 2020**. This quiz was designed to **assess participants' updated knowledge** of core computer concepts and strengthen their digital literacy skills.

The quiz was administered via **Google Forms**, enabling participants from across India to join remotely. The initiative drew an overwhelming response with a total of **340 participants**, representing a wide range of educational and professional backgrounds.

The participant breakdown is as follows:

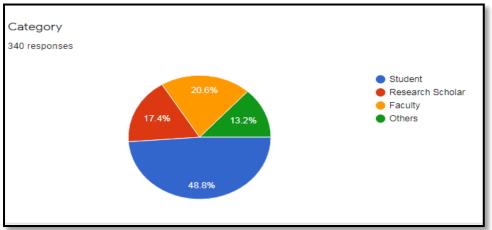
• **48.8%** – Students



- **20.6%** Faculty members
- 17.4% Research Scholars
- 13.2% Other professionals and learners
 The quiz covered intermediate-level topics related to computer fundamentals. Participants who successfully completed the quiz received an e-

Certificate of Participation, acknowledging their achievement and engagement. **Ouiz Access Link:**

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1daBwTwS93Ggy39IQRwNAPngWIUq2WXBa4lmyRA7caT0 This initiative reflects the Centre's ongoing commitment to promoting accessible digital learning, upskilling through online platforms, and fostering knowledge dissemination across diverse learner communities.





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"Online Workshop on Creation of Basic E-Content"

Date: 10-08-2020 **Platform:** Zoom (Online)

The Centre for Differently Abled Persons, Bharathidasan University, in collaboration with the Universal Teachers Academy, Puducherry, organized a one-day Online Workshop on "Creation of Basic E-Content" on 10th August 2020. This workshop was specially designed for teachers and research scholars of Bharathidasan University to enhance their digital teaching competencies.

The main objective of the workshop was to equip participants with foundational skills in developing e-content, focusing primarily on the use of **PowerPoint presentations** as a tool for content creation in virtual teaching environments.



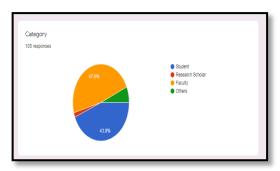
A total of **105 participants** took part in the hands-on training, gaining practical knowledge in:

- Designing educational presentations
- Incorporating multimedia elements
- Structuring content for effective online delivery

The workshop was conducted using the **Zoom platform**, and interactive sessions allowed participants to clarify doubts and practice in real time.

• **Zoom Meeting Link:** https://forms.gle/YHngezQjFJG3LZcd6

• Registration Form Link:



 $\frac{https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1mL6CMDfYkc8eo1u}{MVKcB5y9Qisf_QTD2WjD4di0PqMI/edit}$

This training programme is part of the Centre's broader commitment to **capacity building**, **inclusive digital education**, and **empowering educators** with the tools needed for effective online teaching._Dr.M.Prabavathy, Mr Balasubramaniam, Mr. AsirJulius and Dr Alagu Karthikeyan served as a resource person and trained the participants in

developing e content using open source software. 32 participants participated in the online workshop.

NATIONAL LEVEL WEBINAR ON "INCLUSION PRACTICES OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT"

Date: 13-08-2020 & 14-08-2020

Organized by: Centre for Differently Abled Persons (CDAP), Bharathidasan

University

In Collaboration with: Youth4Jobs Foundation, Hyderabad

Mode: **Online**

The Centre for Differently Abled Persons (CDAP), Bharathidasan University, in collaboration with Youth4Jobs Foundation, Hyderabad, organized a National Level Webinar on "Inclusion Practices of Persons with Disabilities in Higher Education and Employment" on 13th and 14th August 2020. The two-day event aimed to bring together academic leaders, corporate professionals, rehabilitation experts, and disability advocates to discuss strategies for fostering inclusive education and employment.

Day 1 Highlights - 13th August 2020

The event commenced with a **silent prayer**, as a mark of respect to frontline health workers during the COVID-19 pandemic. **Sign language interpreters**, Ms. Vyshnevi Maya and Ms. Jacintha, were introduced by Ms. Archana Vipinachandran, ensuring accessibility throughout the event.

Dr. M. Prabavathy, Director, CDAP, delivered the welcome address, emphasizing the shared vision of the partnering institutions to **empower persons with disabilities through education** and employment. The webinar was formally inaugurated by **Dr. N. Prasanna**, who provided insights into the disability landscape in India.

The **keynote address** was delivered by **Ms. Meera Shenoy**, Founder & CEO, Youth4Jobs Foundation. She highlighted the organization's impact, shared findings from disability studies, and emphasized the need for inclusive employment models.

The first panel discussion focused on the inclusion of individuals with locomotor and learning disabilities in employment, featuring:

- Mr. Venkatesh Subbaraman Regional COO, ANZ
- Mr. Balendu Sharma Director, Localization & Accessibility Lead, Microsoft
- Ms. Padmavathy Kothandaraman Director & Head, Engineering Transformation, NatWest Group

The second panel addressed assistive technologies for locomotor disabilities, featuring:

- Dr. Vani Kesari A Director, School of Legal Studies, CUSAT
- Dr. Sujatha Srinivasan Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, IIT Chennai
- Dr. Tanuja Monesh Prem Founder, Win Therapies & Education Matters



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- Prof. Nagalakshmi Retired Professor, Holy Cross College
- Mr. Swostik Sourav Dash CEO & Co-founder, NeoMotion

This session included live demonstrations of **assistive devices** designed to enhance mobility and workplace access. Over **400 participants** attended Day 1.

Day 2 Highlights - 14th August 2020

The second day began with an introduction and warm welcome, followed by a panel on the **employability of individuals with visual, speech, and learning impairments**. Speakers included:

- Ms. Neeru Bafna Vice President, HR, Axis Bank Foundation
- Ms. Pradnya Desai Managing Director, Technology, Accenture
- Mr. Govardhanan Ramalingam General Manager, HR, Rane Brake Lining Ltd.

They discussed industry challenges and opportunities for hiring persons with disabilities, emphasizing the need for organizational sensitivity and accommodations.

The final panel focused on inclusive education and communication for individuals with speech and hearing impairments, with speakers:

- Dr. S. R. Balasundaram Professor, NIT Trichy
- Mr. Reuben Thomas Varghese Scientist, Dept. of Speech-Language Sciences, AIISH, Mysore
- Dr. Jeyseeli Flora Rehabilitationist, Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai
- Dr. Nagalakshmi Associate Professor, Dept. of Rehabilitation Science, Holy Cross College
- Dr. Raji N. R. Centre for Assistive Technology and Innovation, NISH, Trivandrum

Dr. Raji demonstrated a range of **assistive tools** for inclusive communication in educational settings. The Q&A session invited active participation from the audience.

Over **390 participants** joined Day 2 of the webinar.

Conclusion

The event concluded with a Valedictory Address and Vote of Thanks by Dr. M. Prabavathy, who acknowledged the contributions of speakers, interpreters, organizers, and participants. E-Certificates were issued to all participants.

The positive feedback received highlighted the success of the webinar in **raising awareness**, **fostering dialogue**, **and promoting actionable strategies** for inclusion in higher education and employment. The Youth4Jobs Foundation also announced plans for similar collaborative webinars with institutions across India.

Zoom Platform Link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83938253087?pwd=Nk90SFBNRDd3ZnllSkpwZGNxOG11Zz09



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Meeting ID: 839 3825 3087

e-certificates were issued to the participants.

Center for Differently Abled Persons(CDAP)- Bharathidasan University Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu

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Youth4Jobs Foundation, cordially invite you to attend

The webinar on Inclusion practices of Persons with Disabilities in Higher Education & Employment

Date: August 13th & 14th | Time 9.45 am to 12.45 pm



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"Three-Day Faculty Development Programme on Status of Inclusion of Persons with Visual Disabilities"

Date: 17-08-2020 to 19-08-2020 **Mode:** Online (Google Meet)

Organized by: Centre for Differently Abled Persons, Bharathidasan University

In Collaboration with: National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities

(Divyangjan) – NIEPVD

The Centre for Differently Abled Persons (CDAP), Bharathidasan University, in collaboration with the National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities (NIEPVD), organized a three-day online Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on the

"Status of Inclusion of Persons with Visual Disabilities" from 17th to 19th August 2020.

This capacity-building programme was designed to sensitize and equip faculty members and professionals from various disciplines with knowledge, tools, and strategies to foster **inclusive education and empowerment of persons with visual disabilities**.

Patrons and Coordinators:

- **Dr. P. Manisankar**, Vice-Chancellor, Bharathidasan University *Patron*
- **Dr. Himangshu Das**, Director, NIEPVD *Patron*
- **Dr. G. Gopinath**, Registrar, Bharathidasan University *Co-Patron*
- **Dr. Sree Priva R.**, Officer In-Charge, NIEPVD Regional Centre Co-Patron
- **Dr. M. Prabavathy**, Assistant Professor and Director I/c, CDAP *Programme Coordinator*
- Mr. G. Tagore, Research Officer, NIEPVD Regional Centre *Programme Coordinator*



Participation and Engagement:

The FDP witnessed enthusiastic participation from over **350 faculty members, researchers, and professionals** across various states of India. Conducted via **Google Meet**, the programme featured **expert sessions**, **interactive discussions**, and **presentations** focusing on:

- The current status and challenges of inclusion of persons with visual disabilities
- National policies and legal frameworks (RPwD Act 2016)
- Assistive technologies and accessible education practices
- Best practices and institutional responsibilities

Each day featured **key resource persons** from academic, rehabilitation, and policy-making domains who shared valuable insights and practical approaches for inclusive pedagogy.



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Impact and Outcome:

The programme provided participants with a comprehensive understanding of the barriers faced by



visually impaired individuals in higher education and employment and equipped them with inclusive strategies to overcome these barriers. The interactive nature of the sessions promoted deeper engagement and a strong sense of commitment among the attendees toward inclusive education.

This initiative reflects the university's and NIEPVD's shared commitment to promoting equity, accessibility, and inclusion in education and employment for persons with disabilities.

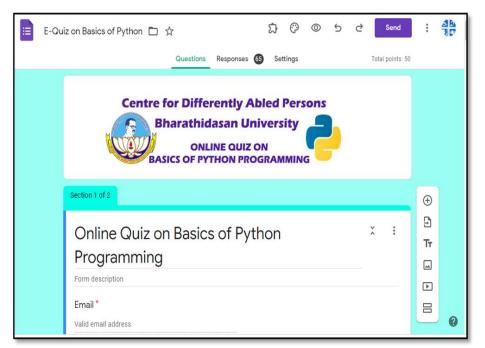


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"E-Quiz on Basics of Python Programming"

Date: 04-09-2020 to 05-09-2020 **Mode:** Online (Google Forms)

As part of its continued efforts to promote digital literacy and programming skills, the **Centre for Differently Abled Persons**, Bharathidasan University, organized an **E-Quiz on Basics of Python Programming** on **4th and 5th September 2020**. The quiz aimed to assess foundational knowledge



in Python programming and to encourage learners to strengthen their coding skills.

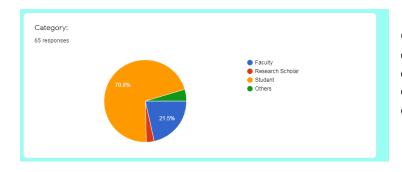
The quiz was conducted via Google Forms, allowing participants from across regions to participate remotely. A total of over 65 participants took part in the quiz. The participant demographic breakdown was as follows:

- **70.8%** Students
- 21.5% Faculty members
- 7.7% Other professionals and learners

Participants who scored above 60% received e-Certificates of Achievement, recognizing their successful completion of the quiz.

Quiz Access Link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1dGB7EDbNg iBC0muDaF8fiCMMXLnC1QutEaSzpBY06Y



This initiative is part of the Centre's broader commitment to skill development, accessible learning, and empowering students with technical competencies in line with emerging digital trends.



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"Observance of International Day of Sign Languages"

Date: 23-09-2020

Organized by: Centre for Differently Abled Persons (CDAP), Bharathidasan University

The Centre for Differently Abled Persons (CDAP), Bharathidasan University, observed the International Day of Sign Languages on 23rd September 2020, to celebrate linguistic identity and cultural diversity of people who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and to promote the importance of sign language as a means of communication and inclusion.

The event was **coordinated by Dr. M. Prabavathy**, Director (i/c), CDAP, with **Dr. Alagukarthikeyan** and **Dr. R. Nanathakumar** serving as **resource persons**. The program focused on creating awareness about **sign language** and empowering both students with and without hearing impairments to engage in inclusive communication.

Highlights of the event included:

- Demonstrations by students with speech and hearing impairments, showcasing their talents and communication skills.
- **Introductory training on basic sign language** provided to other students, enabling them to understand and practice simple signs for daily interaction.

A total of 30 participants took part in the program, which successfully fostered mutual



understanding,empathy, andinclusion among theparticipants.

This observance is aligned with the Centre's ongoing mission promote to accessibility, inclusivity, and awareness in higher education environments, particularly for persons with communication disabilities.

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Report on "World White Cane Day Awareness Program"

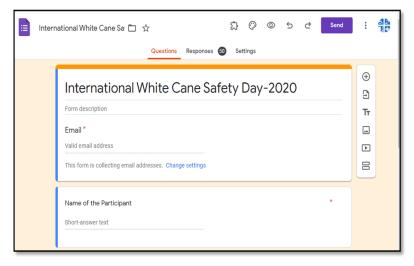
Date: 15-10-2020

Organized by: Centre for Differently Abled Persons (CDAP), Bharathidasan University

The Centre for Differently Abled Persons (CDAP), Bharathidasan University, observed World White Cane Day on 15th October 2020 to raise awareness about the significance of the white cane as a symbol of independence, safety, and mobility for persons with vision impairment.

The event was **organized by Dr. M. Prabavathy and her team** with the objective of educating participants on:

- The **importance of the white cane** in daily life for individuals who are blind or visually impaired
- The different types of white canes and their specific uses



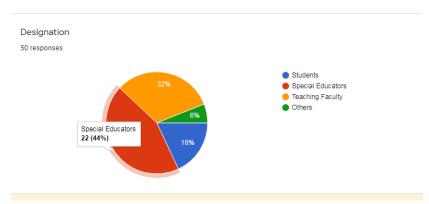
• The safe and effective use of the white cane in various environments

participants' To assess the understanding promote and interactive learning, an online quiz was conducted as part of the celebration. total **50** Α of participants took part in the quiz actively engaged the awareness activities.

Quiz Access Link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1St

D7mbJLBbnLnre96tkofcAVh5XrMFM2QMAl6huaQyA

This program reflected the Centre's continued commitment to promoting inclusive awareness, independent living skills, and accessibility advocacy for persons with visual disabilities.





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"Observance of International Day of Persons with Disabilities – 2020"

Date: 03-12-2020

Organized by: Centre for Differently Abled Persons (CDAP), Bharathidasan University

Mode: Online

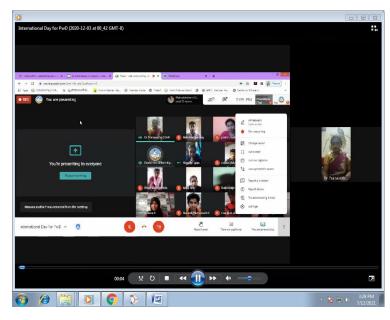
The Centre for Differently Abled Persons (CDAP), Bharathidasan University, observed the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) on 3rd December 2020, under the global theme:

"Building Back Better: Toward a Disability-Inclusive, Accessible and Sustainable Post COVID-19 World."

The program was led by **Dr. M. Prabavathy**, Director (i/c), and her team, and aimed to raise awareness about the **disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on persons with disabilities**, while also promoting a more inclusive and equitable recovery process.

A total of **34 students with disabilities** and **32 other participants** took part in the online event. The discussions centered around the following key areas:

Key Highlights of the Theme:



• Disability-Inclusive Development:

Recognizing disability as a crosscutting issue in all development initiatives, ensuring equal opportunity and representation.

• Accessibility:

Promoting physical, digital, and communicative accessibility to ensure persons with disabilities can participate fully in all aspects of life.

• Sustainability:

Advocating for inclusive development that ensures long-term well-being and empowerment of persons with disabilities.

• Post-COVID-19 Recovery:

Highlighting the need to rebuild economies and societies in a manner that **leaves no one behind**, especially the most vulnerable.

The program also referenced the global call by the **United Nations** and other international organizations to ensure that **disability inclusion** is central to all aspects of the COVID-19 response and recovery.

The session encouraged participants to engage in meaningful conversations and commit to supporting inclusive practices in education, employment, and policy.