

ANNUAL REPORT

2023-2024



Annual Report 2023-24
Published by:



Annual Report 2023-24
Published by:



CONTENTS



About Us	01
Our Impact	02
Abbreviation	03
Message from Founder and Chief Executive Officer	04
 Building Good Health and Well-being	
Collaborative Efforts for Pediatric Rehabilitation and Surgery	05
Spinal Cord Injury Camp	05
Aids and Appliances Distribution	05
 Building Quality Education	
Training of Teacher Educators on Inclusive Education	06
Capacity Building Programme of Teachers	06
Recognizing Sign Language on Mother Language Day	06
Scholar Enrichment Classes	07
Teacher support Program	07
Advocacy for Scribe	07
 Building Gender Equality	
State Consultation on Gender Equality and Disability	08
13th Commonwealth Women's Affairs Ministers Meeting	08
 Building Clean Water and Sanitation	
WASH Sector Reflection Dissemination Workshop Towards Achieving SDG-6	09
 Building Decent Work and Economic Growth	
State level C-20 Side Event	10
Odisha Vikash Conclave	10
 Building Reduced Inequality	
Meeting with District Legal Services Authority	11
Orientation of Officer Trainees at LBSNAA during its 98th Foundation Course	11
Addressing in Commonwealth Round Table	11
National Disability Policy Consultation Meeting	11
2nd "Evidence for Children" Roundtable by UNICEF India	12
OSdN Partners Meeting for Disability Inclusion in Election Manifestos	12
Advocacy with Political Parties for Political Participation	12
 Building Sustainable Cities and Communities	
Civil-20 - Gender Equality & Disability Working Group Summit	13
Webinar on the Occasion Of Global Accessibility Awareness Day	13
Access Audit of The Jagannath Temple	13
Access Audit of Gopabandhu Academy of Administration	14

CONTENTS

Building Climate Action

Civil-20 - Gender Equality & Disability Working Group Summit	15
--	----

Building Partnership and International Activities

Supporting the Train Accident Survivors	16
---	----

Eastern India Consultation on Status of Persons with Disabilities	16
---	----

Partnership with Universities

• MOU signed with Berhampur University for disAbility Inclusion	17
• Signing of MOU with RD Women's University	17

Awareness

• Awareness through Street Play	18
• Disability Sensitization of OAS Probationers 2023	18
• Webinar on Disability and Modern Slavery	18
• Consultation on National Guidelines and Implementation Framework	18
• Webinar on RPwD Act 2016	19
• Disability Sensitization Program at Schools	19
• Orientation on Disability Perspective in Administration	19
• Sandhan Meet	19
• Disability Orientation of Social Work Students	20
• Disability Sensitization at NISWASS	20
• Addressing UConn Indian Students	20
• Disability Awareness Booth	20

Flagship Programs

• Prerana Samman 2023	21
• Anjali Children and Youth Festival 2023	22

Other Programs

TEDx IMI	23
----------	----

Jury in State Awardees for IDPD	23
---------------------------------	----

Mr & Miss India Divyang	23
-------------------------	----

Celebration of Important Days	23
-------------------------------	----

• Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Day	23
• Week Long Celebrations of IDPD	23
• IDPD at Berhampur University	24
• IDPD at RD Women's University	24
• IDPD at IIMC	25
• International Volunteer Day	25
• World Braille Day 2024	25
• World Poetry with Difference	26

Internship Programs

• Orientation of Volunteer	27
• Engagement with Summer Interns	27
• Voices of Interns	27

Financial Summary	28
-------------------	----

Media Speaks	32
--------------	----

About us

Founded in 2001, Swabhiman is a registered nonprofit, a cross-disability organization, advocating for and serving persons with disabilities in Odisha, India, and South Asia. It advocates for the human rights-based approach to disability, implying that all persons with disabilities need to participate in all spheres of society on an equal basis with their nondisabled peers. Swabhiman has been at the forefront of several policy changes that have positively impacted the lives of persons with disabilities. It specifically focuses on supporting education, strengthening youth for availing employment opportunities, increasing public awareness on the issue of disability, working towards accessible cities, and conducting research for enabling advocacy. At the international level, it works with DPI (Disabled People's International), at the national level with NDN (National Disability Network), and at a local level with its network OSdN (Odisha State Disability Network) of district chapters impressive network of civil right advocates promoting and protecting rights of persons with disabilities at all levels.



Legal Status

Registration Year and Number

21490/66 of 2002- 200312 A Certified 82/203-20480 G Certified F.NO.ITO (Tech.)/ 80G-167-1011/2011-12FCRA Number

104830273PWD Act Registration 207/WCD of 2012 BBSR

Accredited by

Google Workspace / Gsuite/Google for Non-Profits

Microsoft for Non-Profits

Guide Star India

Canva for Non-Profits

NASSCOM Big Tech

Grammarly for Non-Profits

Razorpay

Ketto - Crowdfunding

OUR IMPACT

Building Change Agents for Inclusiveness:

Trained **1370** youth volunteers who have been actively involved in different programmes of Swabhiman. These youth will pass on the message of inclusiveness and will act as change agents in creating a just and inclusive society for children/ persons with disabilities

Striking the Chord:

Communicated with **20** different departments of Govt. of Odisha and apprised them over the issues and concerns of persons with disabilities in the state and appealed for taking appropriate measures.

Spreading Awareness:

Being the keynote speaker on disability and other cross-cutting issues, the Chief Executive Officer took the mission forward with her lectures on the issues of persons with disabilities and the way forward at **68** different institutions.

Leveraging Technology, Strengthening Network:

In order to develop a robust communication mechanism for faster and more effective dissemination of information in the state, video-conferencing, WhatsApp messaging have been introduced to the OSdN (Odisha State Disability Network) partners in all the **30** districts.

Leaders in the Making:

As a targeted intervention, **450** youths with disabilities were identified and provided youth leadership Training through **12** regional and state level workshops.

Towards An Equal and Inclusive India:

“Sashakt Campaign” has been a monumental success as around one lakh people covering all the **30** districts of the state were sensitized about laws and the rights of persons with disabilities. It is an attempt towards creating an equal and inclusive nation where differences are accepted and diversities are celebrated.

ABBREVIATIONS

AAP	Aam Aadmi Party	OH	Orthopedically Handicapped
ALIMCO	Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation	OLS	Open Learning System
BBC	Bipin Bihari Choudhury	OSdN	Odisha State Disability Network
BJB	Buxi Jagabandhu Bidyadhar	OSEPA	Odisha School Education Programme Authority
BJD	Biju Janta Dal	PR & DWD	Panchayati Raj & Drinking Water Department
BJP	Bharatiya Janta Party	PwD	Persons with Disability
BU	Berhampur University	RDWU	Rama Devi Women's University
C20	CIVIL-20	RIE	Regional Institute of Education
CBSE	Central Board of Secondary Education	RPwD	Rights of Persons with Disabilities
CCBPF	Children's Cross-Border Pediatric Foundation	S&HI	Speech and Hearing
CCPF	Council of Central Paramedical Faculty	SCB	Srirama Chandra Bhanja
CDPF	Commonwealth Disabled People's Forum	SCERT	The State Council of Education, Research and Training
CEO	Chief Executive Officer	SCI	Spinal Cord Injury
CFAR	Centre for Advocacy and Research	SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
CSOs	Community Service Officers	SEP	Scholar Enrichment Program
CwDs	Children with Disability	SIDAR	State institute for Disability Rehabilitation
CYSD	Centre for Youth and Social Development	SMRC	Shanta Memorial Rehabilitation Center
DLSA	District Legal Services Authority	SSA	Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan
DLU	Disability Law Unity	SSEPD	Social Security & Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Department
DPO	District Program Officer	SwDs	Student with Disability
G20	The Group of Twenty	TLM	Teaching Learning Materials
GoO	Government of Odisha	TSP	Teacher Support Program
HI	Hearing impairment	UConn	University of Connecticut
HM	Head Master	UGUP	Up-Graded Upper Primary
IAS	Indian Administrative Services	UN	The United Nations
ICRC	Inclusive Child Resource Center	UNICEF	The United Nations Children's Fund
IDPD	International Day of Persons with Disabilities	USA	United States of America
IEC	Information, Education, and Communication	UTS	Union Territory
IIMC	Indian Institute of Mass Communication	VC	Vice Chancellor
IIT	Indian Institutes of Technology	VI	Visual Impaired
IML	International Mother Language	WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
IRC	International Rescue Committee	WwD	Women with Disabilities
KIIT	Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology	YwD	Youth with Disabilities
LBSNAA	Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration		
LV	Low Vision		
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding		
NALSA	National Legal Services Authority		
NCAA	National Collegiate Athletic Association		
NCPEDP	National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People		
NCSCDA	National Career Service Centre for Differently Abled		
NEP	New Education Policy		
NGOS	Non-Governmental Organization		
NISHTHA	National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement		
NISWASS	National Institute of Social Work and Social Sciences		
OAS	Odisha Administrative Services		

MESSAGE FROM FOUNDER AND CEO

At the Women's Affairs Ministers Meeting, we highlighted our initiatives in the areas of sustainable cities and climate justice. We conducted access audits, advocated for universal accessibility, and ensured that persons with disabilities are included in disaster management strategies. These efforts are crucial in creating environments that support all individuals, particularly those with disabilities, as they navigate challenges posed by climate change and urban development.

The 23rd edition of the Anjali Festival stood as a powerful symbol of inclusivity, showcasing the talents and contributions of individuals from diverse backgrounds. This festival not only celebrated

achievements but also emphasized the importance of raising awareness about the barriers faced by marginalized communities. It served as a reminder that true inclusivity requires ongoing effort and commitment. As we move forward, Swabhiman is dedicated to building on these accomplishments by fostering more collaborations with various stakeholders, including government agencies, NGOs, and community organizations. Our goal is to continue our work toward a world where inclusivity is not merely an aspiration but a reality for everyone.

We aim to create sustainable practices that empower individuals with disabilities, ensuring their voices are heard and their needs addressed. By advocating for policy changes and raising awareness, we can create a more equitable society where everyone can participate fully. Together, we can work towards a future that embraces diversity and inclusivity, paving the way for a brighter, more accessible world for all.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Sruti Mohaptra".

Dr. Sruti Mohaptra
Founder & CEO

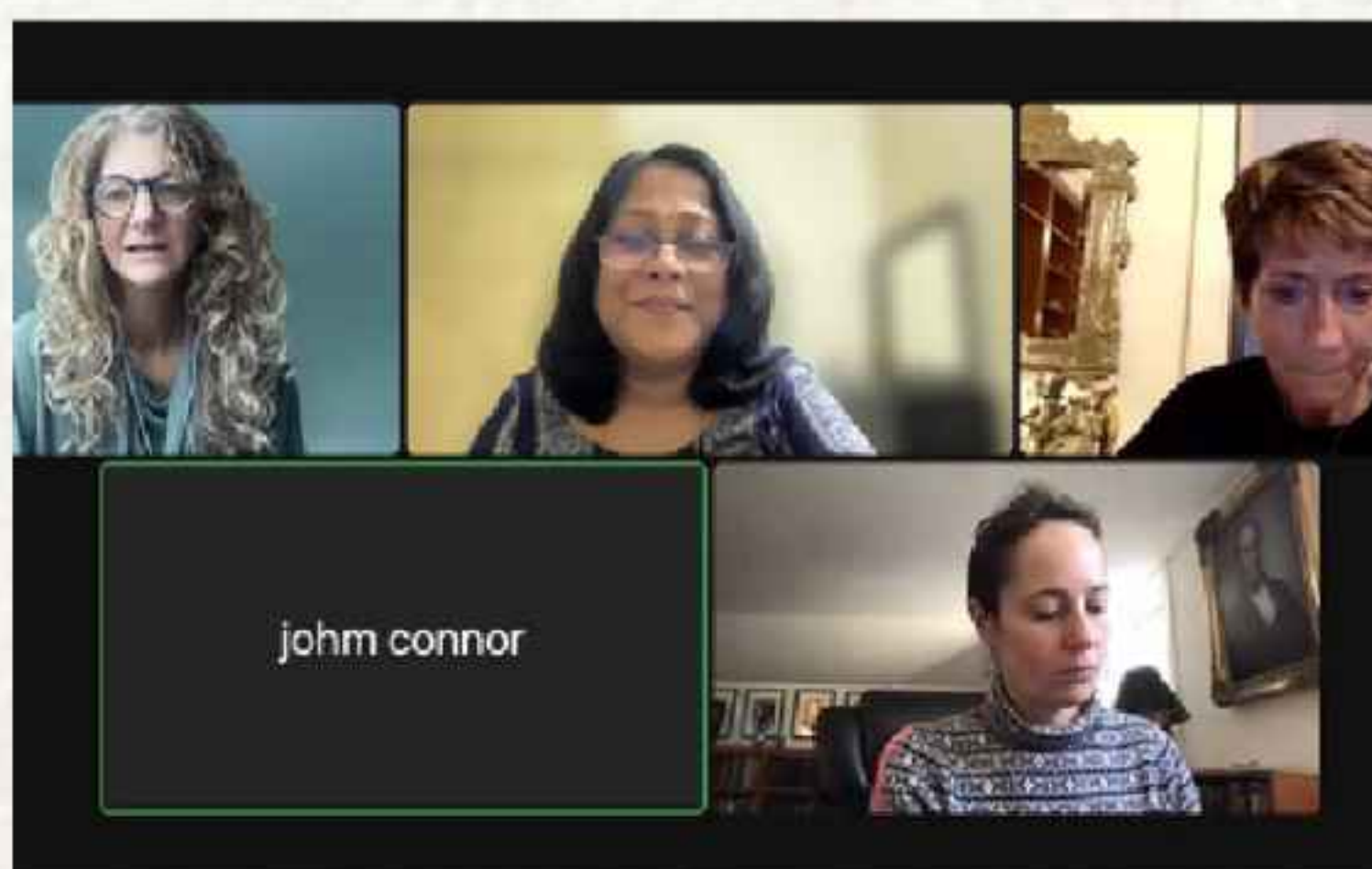
Building Good Health and Well-being

In alignment with SDG 3 (Health and Wellbeing) collaborative efforts have focused on enhancing healthcare access and improving the quality of life for disadvantaged communities through partnerships and initiatives. Swabhiman strives to address health disparities and promote inclusivity by prioritizing pediatric rehabilitation, spinal cord injury support, aids distribution and health assessments.

Collaborative Efforts for Pediatric Rehabilitation and Surgery

12 and 14 /10/2023: A virtual meeting between France Pepper from CCPF, USA and Dr Sruti Mohapatra paved the way for collaborative pediatric rehabilitation and surgery efforts. These endeavors aim to provide free surgeries and therapies to CwDs from impoverished backgrounds. Tentative months for the camps were early January and September 2024. The health assessment program took place at Thee Trust in Pipili.

The three organizations were partners in the execution of the program, Swabhiman being the patient facilitator, CCPF the cross border experts provider and Pipili Trust being the execution node. Ten CwDs underwent comprehensive health assessments, leading to tailored prescriptions and necessary medications. Noteworthy among the outcomes was the individualized care plan for each participant, reflecting the program's commitment to personalized attention and ongoing long term support.



Spinal Cord Injury Camp

05/12/2023: A transformative SCI Mela was held at Thee Trust, Nuasasan Canal Road, Karimul, Pipili. It provided a platform for individuals with spinal cord injuries to come together, share experiences, and access comprehensive medical check-ups.

A total of 33 persons with SCI and 40 escorts actively

participated, fostering meaningful interactions. Participants shared experiences, challenges, and triumphs, creating a sense of unity and solidarity. These exchanges not only strengthened the community but also provided valuable health tips for better living.



A significant highlight was the provision of comprehensive medical checkups by Thee Trust and their doctors team Dr Ashima Sarkhel, Dr Stephy Elisa Kunju, Dr. Amit Khatriyaed by Dr Abhishek Kumar Sanyal. On-site health assessments addressed immediate concerns of SCI, cardiac issues, wellbeing of Kidney and other vital organs , offering recommendations for ongoing care. Participants gained essential insights into managing specific health challenges associated with SCI like pressure sour, bladder and bowel from Dr. Amit Khatriya. In collaboration with Cure Bay Health Care, a free eye check-up event identified and addressed vision-related issues. Regular blood sugar and blood pressure checks were conducted. The event also served as a platform for showcasing talents, challenging stereotypes surrounding disabilities and dissemination of disability rights laws, government entitlements. Various artistic displays, performances, and exhibitions celebrated the diverse skills of individuals with SCI.

Aids and Appliances Distribution

20/01/2024: Ten beneficiaries with orthopedic impairments were supported in obtaining essential aids, such as motorized wheelchairs and modified scooters, through collaboration with NCSCDA and ALIMCO. Swabhiman ensured their active participation in the program, facilitating their applications for the necessary aids and appliances. The beneficiaries included individuals like Shrabani Nayak (11 years), Monalisha Sahoo (16 years), and Durga Prasad Parida (19), each with specific requirements such as motor wheelchairs, normal wheelchairs, or motorized scooters. In total, 25 participants, including beneficiaries, their parents, and a Swabhiman representative, attended the event.



Building Quality Education

In 2023-24, Swabhiman organized two key training programs aimed at promoting inclusive education and enhancing the understanding of quality and equity among teacher educators. These sessions were led by Tanmayee Sahu, Program Manager, and focused on equipping educators with the necessary skills and knowledge to foster inclusive educational practices.

Training of Teacher Educators on Inclusive Education

17/09/2023: Swabhiman conducted a training session titled 'Inclusive Education: Quality and Equity' for newly recruited teacher educators in 2023 at RCE, Bhubaneswar. The event was organized by the Directorate of Teacher Education and SCERT, Odisha, Bhubaneswar. Ninety-five trainees, consisting of 63 females and 32 males aged between 25 to 40 years, attended the session, including both experienced professionals and newcomers to the education field. The goal was to familiarize the educators with concepts such as Equality, Equity, Quality, and Inclusion in Education, emphasizing the journey towards achieving Quality and Equity. Discussions covered inclusion provisions from the Salamanca Declaration of 1994 to NEP-2020.



Capacity Building Programme of Teachers

18-22/12/2023: A comprehensive session on "Acts and Laws Supporting Equitable and Inclusive Education" was held at RIE Bhubaneswar. This session was an integral part of the Capacity Building Programme on Equitable and Inclusive Education organized by the NISHTHA, held at the Conference Hall of RIE campus in Bhubaneswar.

The session aimed to equip teacher educators from various schools across four states and two UTs with a nuanced understanding of Equity and Inclusion in Education. Participants chosen for their lack of exposure to special/inclusive education, represented diverse educational institutions including government and government-aided schools, CBSE, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, Navodaya



Vidyalaya Sangathan, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, and Eklavya Model Residential Schools. Through discussions on international frameworks like the Salamanca Declaration of 1994 and the UN Convention on the Rights of PwDs, as well as national initiatives such as SSA and the Right to Education Act, the session emphasized the importance of quality and equity in inclusive education, with a focus on effective policy implementation, particularly in promoting disability inclusion.

The session underscored the pivotal role of policy implementation in fostering disability inclusion within the educational landscape. By equipping participants with knowledge of international and national frameworks for inclusion, the initiative aims to advance equitable and inclusive educational practices. The ultimate goal is to empower trained participants to serve as Key Resource Persons / Master Trainers within their respective states/UTs/Organizations, facilitating the dissemination of their knowledge to train other educators.

Recognizing Sign Language on Mother Language Day

Swabhiman (DLU-East), in collaboration with the RIE, Bhubaneswar, and the Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for S&HI Disability, celebrated IML Day at the New Auditorium, RIE Campus, Bhubaneswar. The focus was on acknowledging sign language as a mother language to advocate for inclusive



Scholar Enrichment Classes

2023-24 saw five Scholar Enrichment sessions being conducted for Anjali Scholars, the deserving meritorious SwDs from financially disadvantaged backgrounds across Odisha. These sessions were conducted by Sambit Das, the governing body member Swabhiman who is banker with VI.

03/12/2023: 26 YwDs explored the Constitution of India and various legislative acts. The session concluded with a motivational talk from Sambit Das, coinciding with the IDPD.

- 23/12/2023: The focus was on critical aspects of the Indian Constitution, covering parts, schedules, and specific sections (Part 1 – Union and States, Part 2 – Citizenship, Part 3 – Fundamental Rights, and Part 4 – Directive Principles of State Policy).
- 04/02/2024: 22 students learned about the structure of the Indian Parliament, the role and powers of the President, types of government funds, and legislative processes involving bills, acts, and ordinances. It also included a discussion on the classification of bills and parliamentary majorities.
- 24/02/2024: This session revisited the Union Government's structure, the functions of Parliament and the President, types of funds, and legislative processes. Despite a slight decrease in attendance to 18 students, engagement remained high.
- 09/03/2024: 16 students learned in a session focusing on the Indian Polity, specifically the judicial system, including the Supreme Court, High Courts, District/Subordinate Courts, and the election process (direct and indirect elections, election terms, and processes).



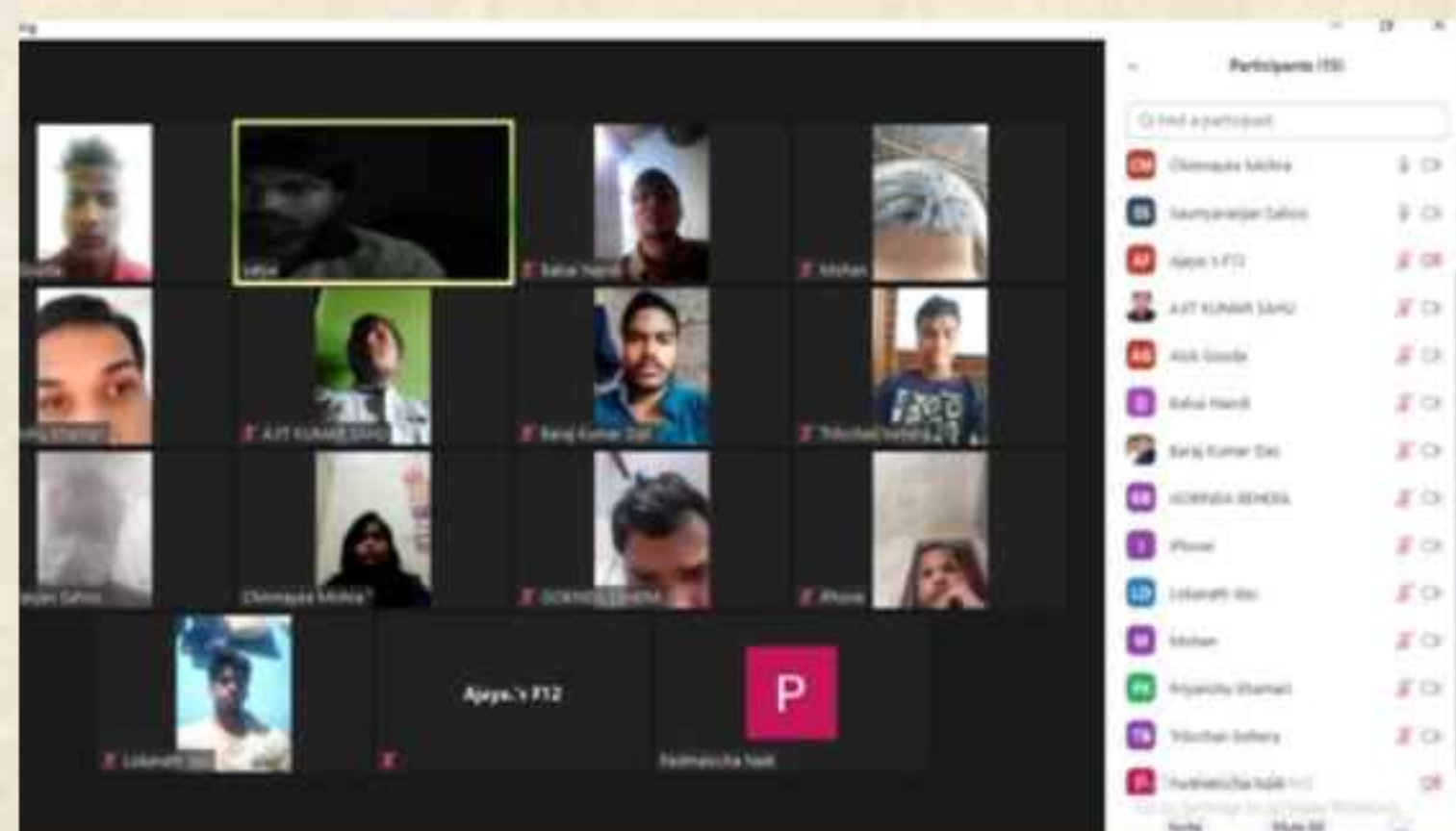
He teaches Fine Art to students from class 1 to class 10, conducting five classes per working day. Additionally, he teaches art and craft to CwDs at the ICRCs once a week. This program is supported by Smt. Manjusmita Panda of London.

Advocacy for Scribe

In February: Advocacy efforts with school authorities and the Board of Secondary Education to facilitate the provision of scribes for students with disabilities. Key stakeholders included the headmasters of four different schools:

1. Niharika Panda, HM, Baramunda Rental High School, Bhubaneswar.
2. Bandana Mohapatra, HM, Capital High School, Bhubaneswar.
3. Sangeeta Mohapatra, HM, Sahid Nagar, Bhubaneswar.
4. Swarnalata Sahoo, HM, Sayad Mumtaj Ali High School.

Swabhiman provided these headmasters with updated circulars detailing accommodations for SwDs. Specifically, they were urged to arrange scribes for three students with Autism: Sarthak Dwivedi, Sneha Suman, and Amar Senapati. Additionally, extra time accommodations were requested for two other students, Swadhin Behera (HI) and Dipankar Bhuniya, during their examinations.



Teacher Support Program

Swabhiman appoints educated, qualified, unemployed YwDs as teachers in special schools. It also maintains a database of special schools which require teaching staff. The Teacher Support Program is the match between qualification of the youth and request made by the special school. Presently as part of the TSP Shakti Prasad, a trained artist in Fine Arts with HI, serves as an art teacher at BBC School for the HI.



Building Gender Equality

State Consultation on Gender Equality and Disability

20/05/2023: On the invitation of Bal Kalyana Sangh, Swabhiman actively participated in the 'State Consultation on Gender Equality and Disability' organized by Bal Kalyan Sangh in collaboration with PECUC and supported by The Asia Foundation under C20 G20 India Programme on Gender & Disability, in Bhubaneswar. Program Manager shared Swabhiman's impactful practices, including shaping the 'National Curriculum Framework' and establishing 'Model Inclusive Child Resource Centers' replicated by the Government of Odisha in all 314 blocks. Among the good practices shared were access audits of over 700 public buildings, reaching out to 47,000 children and youth with disabilities, providing scholarships, facilitating livelihood options and advocacy efforts. The organizers compiled insights from all participating organizations to craft an advocacy agenda for C20.



13th Commonwealth Women's Affairs Ministers Meeting

20-22/08/2023: Dr. Mohapatra led a CDPF delegation to the Bahama's meeting, hosted jointly by the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Government of Bahamas. At the session on 'Gender and Disability Inclusion,' she addressed Ministers and Parliamentarians from 56 Commonwealth countries on the status of WwDs across the Commonwealth and the necessity of disability inclusion, earning appreciation from delegates including Secretary General Patricia Scot and the Minister of Social and Urban Development, Bahamas, who chaired the session. Dr. Mohapatra's suggestion to establish a unit in the Commonwealth Secretariat and allocate funds for empowering women and girls with disabilities in the region received positive feedback and was included in the way forward document as a key point.



Building Clean Water and Sanitation

WASH Sector Reflection Dissemination Workshop Towards Achieving SDG-6

06/10/2023: The Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Department of the Government of Odisha, along with UNICEF, IRC, WaterAid, Water for People, and the Sustainable Sanitation Alliance, organized a reflection workshop for the WASH sector. Discussions covered various aspects including policies, financial resources, institutional capacities, water resources management, climate change, and learning and adaptation.

Anurag Gupta from WaterAid presented recommendations from a previous WASH sector reflection, while Bhavesh Kumar Nayak, Additional Secretary from the PR&DW Department of GoO, delivered the keynote address.

During the workshop, Swabhimani proposed incorporating a gender and disability perspective to ensure inclusivity and sustainability in the WASH sector, a suggestion widely accepted by participants. Recognizing that inclusion is crucial for sustainable development, this approach aligns with advancing SDG 6, aiming for clean water and sanitation for all.



Building Decent Work and Economic Growth

State level C-20 Side Event

21/04/2023: Swabhiman participated in a State-level 'Policy Consultation Meeting on Economic Empowerment & Sustainable Livelihoods for PwDs: Considerations for G20 Summit' organized by Sight Savers in Bhubaneswar. The event brought together DPOs, disability experts, leaders, young entrepreneurs, students, and researchers with disabilities to provide policy input for the G20 Summit. The objective was to amplify the voices of people with disabilities and advocate for their economic empowerment and sustainable livelihoods on a global platform. Recommendations were drawn from local best practices and challenges, with key advocacy points presented at the state-level C-20 event by Sight Savers representatives.



Odisha Vikash Conclave

07/12/23: The Odisha Vikash Conclave hosted six impactful sessions at Mayfair Convention, Bhubaneswar. Swabhiman representatives contributed to the Youth Skilling and Employment session, which comprised two segments. Session 1, led by Ratnakar Panigrahi, focused on inclusive employment for marginalized youth and a transformative vision for Odisha in 2036, with Shashank Grahachariya facilitating discussions on market needs. Session 2, titled "Future-Ready Skills: Aligning Education with Society Needs," welcomed participants with Ansuman Jena and featured insights from experts Babu Shankar and Dr. Gangadhar Sahoo on the future of jobs and regional youth skilling initiatives. Officers Sahu and Behera from Swabhiman actively participated, advocating for inclusion and highlighting the impact of inaccessibility on leaving many potential youths unskilled, unemployed, and underpaid.



Building Reduced Inequality

Meeting with District Legal Services Authority

10/05/2023: A meeting was held at the office of the District Legal Services Authority, Khurda, with District Judge cum Chairman, Soudamini Singh, and Sudipta Acharya, Member Secretary of the Odisha State Legal Services Authority, Cuttack. Representatives from Swabhiman, CFAR, Aaina, and Humanity, along with the Secretary of DLSA, Khurda were physically present and Member Secretary joined virtually. The discussion, conducted in hybrid mode, aimed to address the challenges faced by PwDs in accessing government and NALSA schemes. Program Manager of Swabhiman highlighted issues including accessibility, disability certification, food security, and lack of awareness about the RPwD Act-2016 among public servants and service providers. Sudipta Acharya suggested organizing a physical meeting to plan a campaign for sensitizing various stakeholders about these challenges.



Orientation of Officer Trainees at LBSNAA during its 98th Foundation Course

17/10/2023: Dr. Sruti Mohapatra's presentation at the invitation of LBSNAA to the Officer Trainees of the 98th Foundation Course focused on the imperative theme of "Towards a Sensitive World." Delving into the discourse, she comprehensively explored the four foundational pillars of a Sensitive Society Diversity, Inclusion, Equity, and Sensitivity. She offered profound insights into each pillar, particularly in the context of disability. This session, being her ninth address to officer trainees since 2004, underscores her sustained commitment to fostering awareness and understanding. Noteworthy was the selection of 13 officers with disabilities among the 560 officer trainees, emphasising the significance of Dr. Mohapatra's initiative in sensitising top-ranking officers and advancing the cause of inclusion in development efforts.



Addressing Commonwealth Round Table

30/11/2023: The Commonwealth Round Table was conducted in a hybrid mode at the Commonwealth Secretariat in London. This format seamlessly blended both physical and virtual participation, with 87 attendees joining virtually and approximately 27 individuals present in person. Madam Patricia Scotland, the Commonwealth Secretary-General, delivered a welcoming address, extending her best wishes for the highest levels of success to PwDs.

Dr. Sruti Mohapatra, the Vice Chair of Commonwealth Disabled Peoples International, was invited to make a presentation on the status of disability in India. She spoke on the current challenges, and strategies to address gaps in program implementation. Additionally, she discussed the commonwealth Womens minister Summit 2023 outcome on inclusion of WwDs held in the Bahamas. Her presentation received applause from all attendees., focusing on providing insights into the facts about disabilities in India.



National Disability Policy Consultation Meeting

20/11/2023 and 23/11/2023: On the invitation of the Principal Secretary SSEPD Department, Government of Odisha, experts in the disability sector met at SIDR conference hall to discuss the draft document on National Disability Policy. Dr Sruti Mohapatra, Tanmayee Sahu and Satyajit Behera represented Swabhiman and gave

suggestions on inclusive education, accessibility, social security schemes and inclusion, health and modern slavery. The suggestions were incorporated in the Draft National Policy for PwDs.



2nd "Evidence for Children" Roundtable by UNICEF India

30/01/2024: Dr. Mohapatra participated in a thematic session focusing on disability at the second "Evidence for Children" Roundtable, hosted by UNICEF India and convened virtually. The event gathered diverse participants, including experts, producers, and users in the evidence ecosystem, representing sectors like research institutes, policy think tanks, government bodies, donors, multilateral organizations, CSOs, the private sector, and young people. Discussions centered on identifying cws, understanding their vulnerabilities and locations, and exploring effective solutions and interventions to meet their needs. Dr. Mohapatra highlighted data and evidence issues concerning CwDs and emphasized the vital roles of development partners and the United Nations in promoting their inclusion and well-being throughout India.

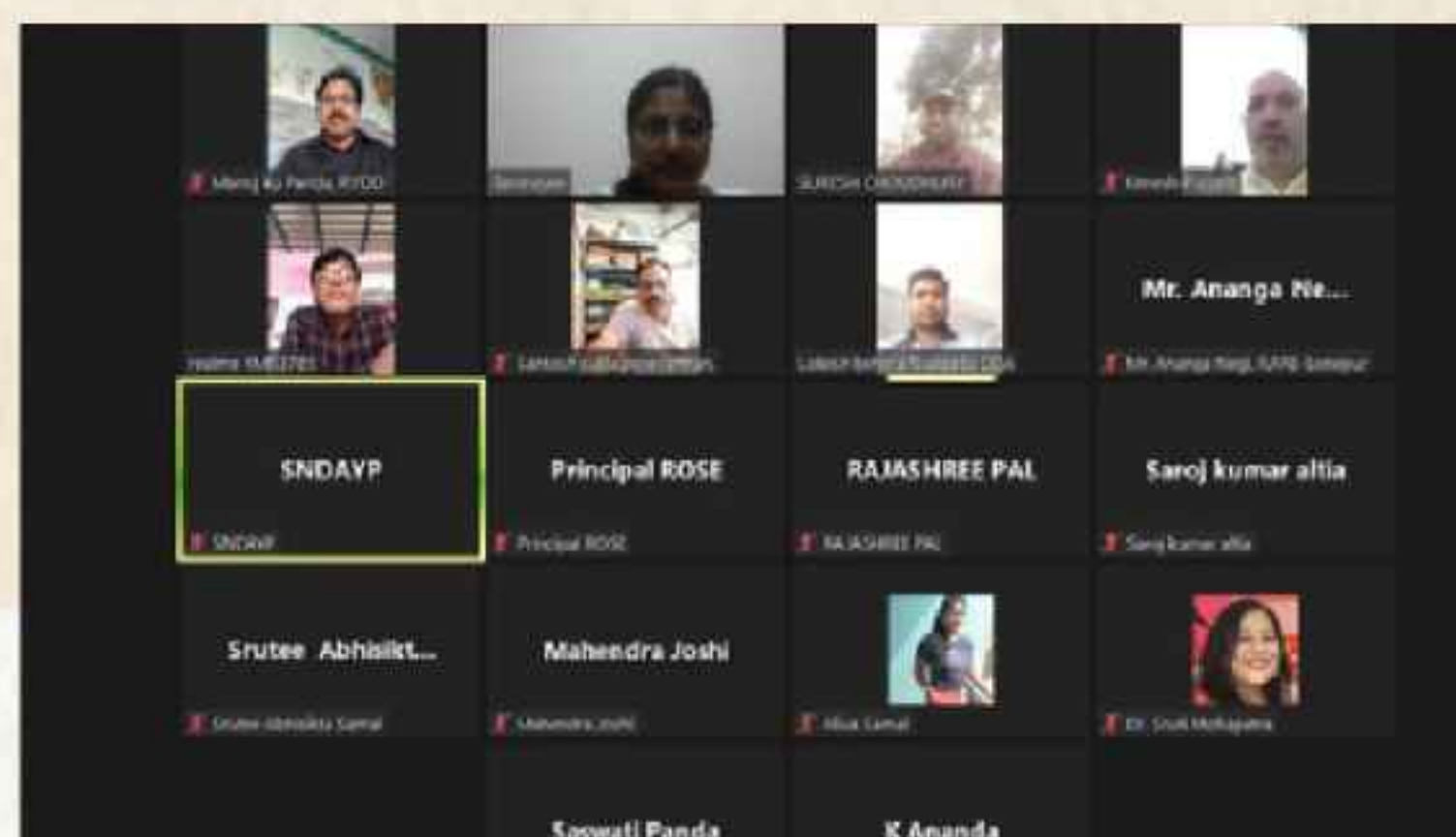


OSdN Partners Meeting for Disability Inclusion in Election Manifestos

14/03/2024: A virtual meeting of OSdN partners convened with 19 organizations and social activists from various districts of Odisha by its state secretariat which is at Swabhiman, Bhubaneswar. The focal point was to strategize disability inclusion in election manifestos.

The meeting began with a welcome address by OSdN partner Umesh Purohit, followed by Dr. Mohapatra's

presentation on the Manifesto for and by citizens with Disabilities. She highlighted achievements in disability inclusion from 2014 to 2016, emphasizing the significant increase in disabled voters and their impact on electoral outcomes. Action points discussed included compiling case studies, tracking party promises, documenting voter challenges, translating the manifesto into Odia, and addressing local issues. Concerns about accessibility and advocacy extension were addressed, with partners agreeing on immediate priorities. Key decisions included compiling case studies featuring candidates with disabilities, tracking party promises, documenting voter challenges, translating the manifesto, initiating disability inclusion initiatives at the district level, and establishing a state-level interface with political party leaders. The meeting concluded with Kartik Chandra Pandav extending a vote of thanks, emphasizing the need for prompt responses and active cooperation from all partners.



Advocacy with political parties for Political Participation

21/03/2024: Representatives from Swabhiman visits to four major political party offices in Odisha: BJD, BJP, Congress, and AAP, aiming to enhance the political engagement of the OSdN. Tanmayee engaged with Saroj Kar at the BJP office, sharing the letter and manifesto despite the President's absence. At Congress Bhawan, she interacted with Jitendra Biswal, President of the Disability Cell, who accepted the documents on behalf of relevant members. Meanwhile, Satyajit faced challenges in meeting leaders at the BJD and AAP offices due to prior engagements and internal issues, respectively. However, letters, an Accessibility report, and manifestos were shared with these parties, along with other district partners of OSdN, to positively influence the ongoing process.



Building Sustainable cities and Communities

Civil-20, Gender Equality & Disability Working Group Summit

22/04/2023: Dr Mohapatra participated in the Civil 20 Gender Equality and Disability Working Group Summit, at KIIT in Bhubaneswar. The session focused on policy discussions and consolidation of policy recommendations for each of the 7 sub-themes covered under the Gender Equality & Disability Working Group, namely:

- Economic Empowerment & Sustainable Livelihoods
- Education & Skill Development
- Environment & Disasters
- Physical & Mental Health
- Safety & Security
- Society & Values + Engaging Men & Boys for Gender Equality
- Disability

Being one of the leading disability activists her inputs were valued to be taken for global policy to advance the needs of PwDs.



Webinar on the Occasion Of Global Accessibility Awareness Day

18/05/2023: Dr Mohapatra was invited as the Chief Speaker in a Webinar on the occasion of Global Accessibility Awareness Day which was organised by Composite Regional Centre for Skill Development, Rehabilitation & Empowerment of PwDs (Divyangjan) Namkum, Ranchi. This webinar was conducted for orientation on Accessibility for PwDs Dr Mohapatra



threw light on the concept of Accessibility, its need for a PwDs and ensuring accessibility and Inclusion.

Access Audit of The Jagannath Temple

07/07/2023: Under the PRASAD Scheme of the Government of India, Swabhimana conducted an audit of the renowned Lord Jagannath Temple in Puri. The audit team, consisting of six members, including a team lead, civil engineer, two individuals with disabilities, an artist, and an architect. The team encountered several difficulties arising from the ancient rules and rituals of the temple. They were unable to take photographs during their observations, although an artist was available to produce sketches of the temple's interior. The presence of a damaged wooden chair inside the temple hindered the assessment of wheelchair accessibility. Initially, the temple authorities demonstrated a hostile and unwelcoming attitude, denying entry to the team on two occasions. However, following intervention by the district administration, the team was provided with escorts and granted permission to proceed with the audit. Despite the considerable obstacles posed by the temple's rules and rituals, the Swabhimana team conducted the access audit using innovative approaches. The primary objective of this audit was to assess the accessibility of the Jagannath Temple premises and determine whether it was extremely difficult or impossible for individuals with limited functional abilities to access darshan of Lord Jagannath in inner sanctum. Additionally, the audit aimed to identify areas in need of remedial action. The audit report focused on the physical aspects of the temple, highlighting both positive aspects and shortcomings, while also providing recommendations. The specific goal was to create a roadmap for collaboration between the Sevayat of Jagannatha Temple, individuals with disabilities, engineers, and architects to enhance accessibility within the temple premises. All the findings from the audit were documented in a user-friendly report, which included observations, sketches, photographs, and recommendations.



Access Audit of Gopabandhu Academy of Administration

05/07/2023: Gopabandhu Academy of Administration is the apex training institute for Administrative Officers serving in the Government of Orissa. With the goal of evaluating the accessibility of the academy's premises for staff, probationers, trainees, and the general public with limited functional abilities, Swabhiman was requested by the authorities to conduct an access audit of it. The audit focused on the physical aspects of the academy's building and aimed to identify both positive aspects and areas requiring improvement. The objective was to provide a roadmap for collaboration between academy staff, individuals with disabilities, engineers, and architects to create an inclusive campus. The audit findings were presented in a report that included observations, photographs, and recommendations, making it easy to understand. The implementation of these recommendations will address barriers and challenges that hinder physically limited individuals from accessing and moving freely in and around the academy's built environment. The academy consists of one building with six classrooms, one computer room, one library, two game zones, and nine toilets, and the audit report was submitted to facilitate the retrofitting of accessible features.



Towards Accessible Odisha



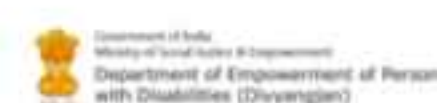
**Gopabandhu Academy of
Administration,
Bhubaneswar**



Towards Accessible Odisha



**Jagannath Temple
Puri**





Building Climate Action

Civil-20, Gender Equality & Disability Working Group Summit

29/05/2023: Dr Mohapatra moderated the session on 'Climate Justice and DiDRR' in the International conference of Disability, Equity Justice at New Delhi. This conference had participation from over 30 countries. It brought organizations of PwDs, disabled experts and other stakeholders from across the G20+ countries, to ensure that the group made robust policy recommendations as an outcome. In the day-long conference deliberations were made over thematic areas such as an inclusive economy, skilling for the future, WwDs led development, and better preparedness for disasters and climate change.



Building Partnership and International Activities

Supporting the Train Accident Survivors

03/06/2023: Swabhiman in partnership with OSdN and Disability Cell formed by civil society organisations extended its support to the survivors as well family members of the deceased from 3rd June till 1st week of July

The tragic train accident at Bahanaga on 02/06/2023 which involved the Chennai bound Coromandel Express, the Howrah bound Shalimar Express and a goods train was devastating. It took the lives of many and left many more with severe to minor injuries and the number varies from one source to other. But it had a profound impact across the country.

Along with prompt actions taken by the government, the sensitive public and many civil society organisations, youth groups, philanthropic institutions supported the victims and their family members in whatever way possible on their part.

From the early morning of 03/04/2023, OSdN put its effort to provide support to the survivors of this tragic incident. Jayant Kumar Pradhan and his team Sasmita, Rashmita, Sarat and Sujata of Manav Utthan Seva of Soro, Balasore, an active member of OSdN, reached Ground Zero and provided all sorts of support. Starting from blood donation, help desk setup, counselling to the family members of aggrieved passengers, supply of drinking water, food and arrangement of free home stay, arrangement of transportation to helping in identification of injured and deceased. The united effort of public was praise worthy.

On 03/04/2023 the OSdN and organisations working on disability came together on a single platform to provide support as per their capacity under Disability Cell.

On 04/06/2023 Team Swabhiman (Swatishree Maharana,



Satyajit Behera and Pratyush) reached Ground Zero along with other team members of Disability Cell and distributed relief. They also visited district hospitals of Sore and Balasore along with the local OSdN partner. Another team of Swabhiman (Rushali Devi and Saswati Panda) went to the SCB Medical college and Hospital to take a stock of the survivors. Simultaneously Dr Sruti Mohapatra contacted senior railway officials and administrators to collect list of passengers who travelled with railway concession in both trains and the passenger details in disability coaches.

On 06/06/2023, a team of 4 from Swabhiman (Tanmayee, Satyajit, Swatishree and Saswati) went to meet the severely injured survivors at SCB Medical, College and Hospital, Cuttack with an intention to provide support in their rehabilitation in case of any disability and link them for any further support needed.

On 06/06/2023 the survivors of the train accident admitted in SCB Medical College and Hospital, were shifted to different wards. Team Swabhiman visited the general surgery ward, neurosurgery ward, orthopaedic, SCI Unit, eye building and met around 80-90 survivors. Out of them the team came across seven survivors with severe injuries which might end with some kind of disabilities. The survivors were contacted several times over telephone and were provided with counselling support and information about assistive devices and entitlements.

Eastern India Consultation on Status of Persons with Disabilities

09/05/2023: Supported by NCPEDP New Delhi, organised the Eastern India consultation on Status of PwDs. The aim of this Consultation was to understand the status of people with disabilities in the Eastern Region across the key thematic areas of education, employment, health and accessibility, specifically in the context of gender and SDGs realisation. There were a total 86 participants with 44 persons with disability from 5 states of Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal. Presentation of five states on status of persons with disabilities and RPwD Act implementation was held in session Chaired by Jagadananda, Founder Member of CYSD, Ex information commissioner, Bratati Harichandan, and Dr. Asha Hansns, Executive Vice President SMRC listened to state presentations.



From Odisha- TanmayeeSahu (Coordinator DLU-East), from Bihar- Rakesh Kumar (State secretary, Viklang Adhikar Manch), from Jharkhand - Ajit Kumar (Divyang Adhikar Manch), from Chhatisgarh- Ishwar Prasad Chhata (Director, Chhatisgarh Viklang Manch) gave a presentation on status of disability in respective states. The common thing that resonated in all the presentations reflected very poor implementation of the law and the rules framed there under. It was seen that the formation, functioning and contribution of the state advisory board is very weak. Though the notification for setting up the special court is seen but the functionality of such courts is not seen. It is seen that the district level committees are formed in many places but have not been functional.

Partnership with Universities

To promote inclusive education, MoUs were signed with Berhampur University and RD Women's University in December 2023 during different events. These agreements aim to address real-life challenges through collaborative projects and research. Following numerous meetings and follow-ups to create an inclusive environment for students with disabilities in alignment with NEP 2020, these proceedings were achieved. The next agenda in this collaborative initiative includes teacher orientation and the inclusion of disability topics in the curriculum.

MOU signed with Berhampur University for disAbility Inclusion

09/12/2023: Berhampur University (Barrier Free Access to



PwD Cell) signed an MOU with Swabhiman to implement and solve real life problems of the disability community with commitment and vision coupled with passion, energy and intelligence; to jointly take up action on different projects; conduct research works etc. The MOU was signed by Prof. Geetanjali Dash, VC, on behalf of Berhampur University and Dr. Mohapatra, CEO, on behalf of Swabhiman.

Signing of MOU with RD Women's University

03/12/2023: Rama Devi Women's University and Swabhiman cemented their commitment to inclusivity by signing an MOU. This partnership, formalized during the university's 9th Foundation Day and the IDPD, aims to promote inclusivity through joint initiatives like seminars and research activities. The MOU signing ceremony involved Shyamali Mohapatra, Registrar of RDWU, and Dr. Mohapatra, CEO of Swabhiman. Dignitaries including His Excellency, Raghubar Das, Governor of Odisha, and Chancellor of the university, attended the event, along with guests like Ven Shim San. Dr. Mohapatra's speech encouraged students to pursue their aspirations with determination.



Awareness

Awareness through Street Play

19-23/04/2023: Conducted a street play 'Let's break the chains of differences' to create awareness on disabilities such as Hemophilia, Autism, Book and Copyright day for Persons with VI and Down Syndrome. Both the venues were chosen with a strategic purpose of attracting the young mass. This play was about the challenges that PwDs face and the support system available for them. Information about different Acts like RPwD Act 2016 and other facilities like Disability Pension, Scholarships, travel passes etc. were also shared through this play. Team tried to use a traditional medium of awareness, in order to keep things exciting, engaging and simultaneously impactful. Through this street play made people aware about the symptoms of such disabilities. The aim was to create inclusion, put forward a hand of equality and equity and also show how inclusivity is vital for all round development of a person and the society as well. The target audience was mostly youth, because they are the future and can contribute towards change. The street play team was a group of 18 participants including one CwDs, 14 volunteers and three team members.



Disability Sensitization of OAS Probationers 2023

26/04/2023: Dr. Sruti Mohapatra was invited as an inclusion expert to take a session on the topic "Special Needs of the PwDs and Administration" for Induction Training Programme of OAS probationers (DR) at Gopabandhu Academy of Administration, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar. She spoke on the characteristics of the PwDs, how they can become participants in the process of development and how administration can understand the nuances of disability and PwDs.



Webinar on Disability and Modern Slavery

06/06/2023: Dr Mohapatra spoke on 'Modern Trafficking and Disability' in the webinar organised by The Commonwealth 8.7 Network on 'Disability and Modern Slavery'. She at length explained about the push and pull factors of trafficking and engagement of PwDs in different industries and vulnerable



work environment. She elaborately gave suggestions to discourage the emerging trends in modern trafficking and disability. This webinar had 79 participants from different countries (India, UK, Ghana). Shivaun Scanlan from UK (CHRI) moderated, Dr. Emma Veitch from UK (Clinical Psychologist Helen Bamber Foundation) and Afasi Komla from Ghana (Director, Special Projects, Engage Now Africa) were the other speakers of this session. This exploratory session looked at length into a rarely discussed topic and had intense cerebral discussions on the intersection between disability and modern slavery. Focus was on trafficking during disasters, forced beggary, forced marriage and forced labour. Psychological and health aspects, cruelty by employers and violence were discussed along with missing data on disability.

Consultation on National Guidelines and Implementation Framework

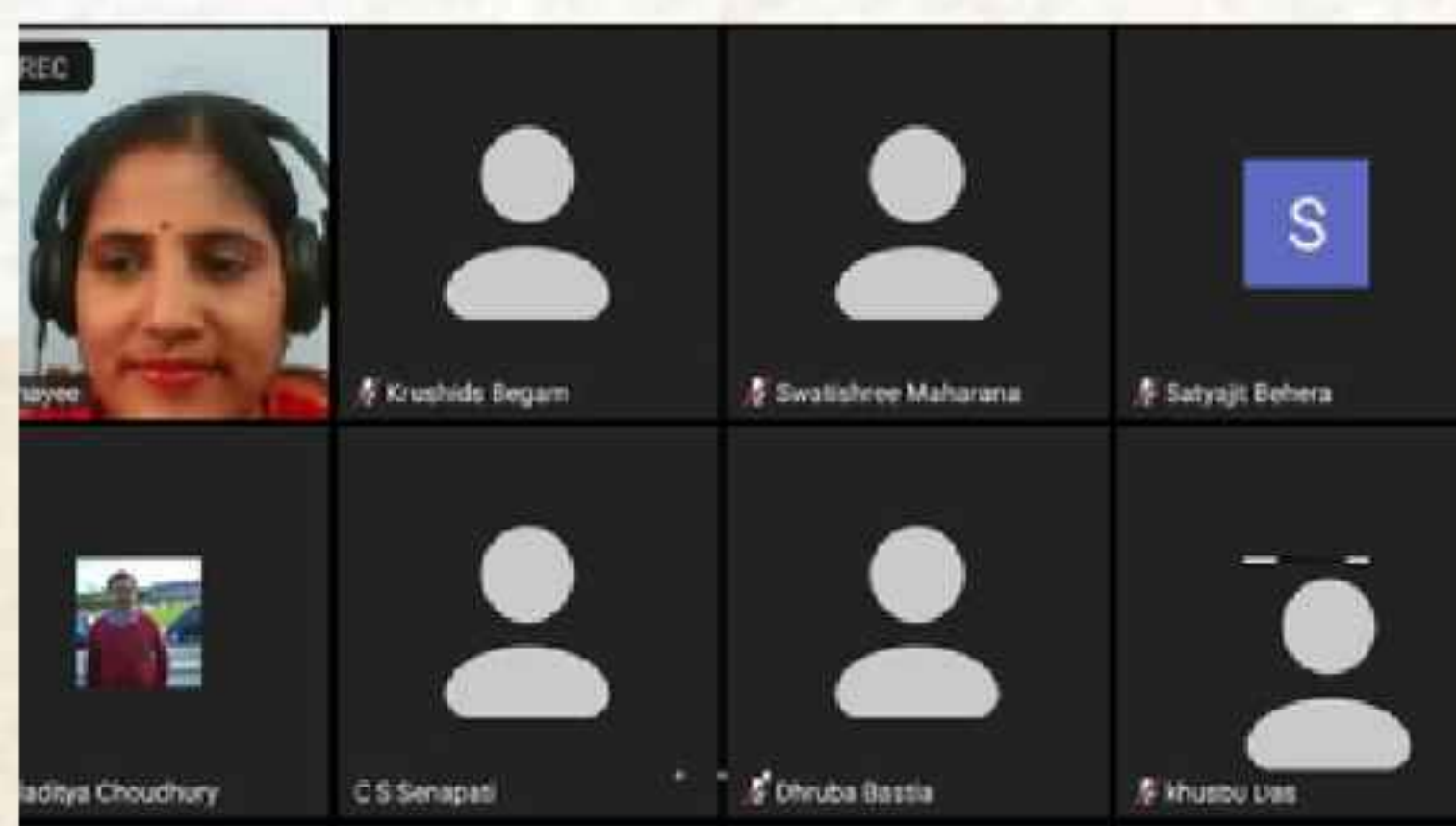
20/05/2023: Swabhiman participated in Consultative meet on draft National Guidelines and implementation Framework on Equitable and Inclusive Education. This meeting was organized by OSEPA for the Ministry of Education to invite feedback from the States. There were 16 attendees from the government and NGOs sectors who shared their feedback on the draft guideline on Universal Curriculum Framework. Along with government officials, selected BRT participants from other CSOs working on inclusive education like Aaina, Sightsavers, Swabhiman, OLS, Chetna, etc. and shared their



feedback for necessary adaptations . Through this meeting the Ministry of Education has invited feedback from the States.

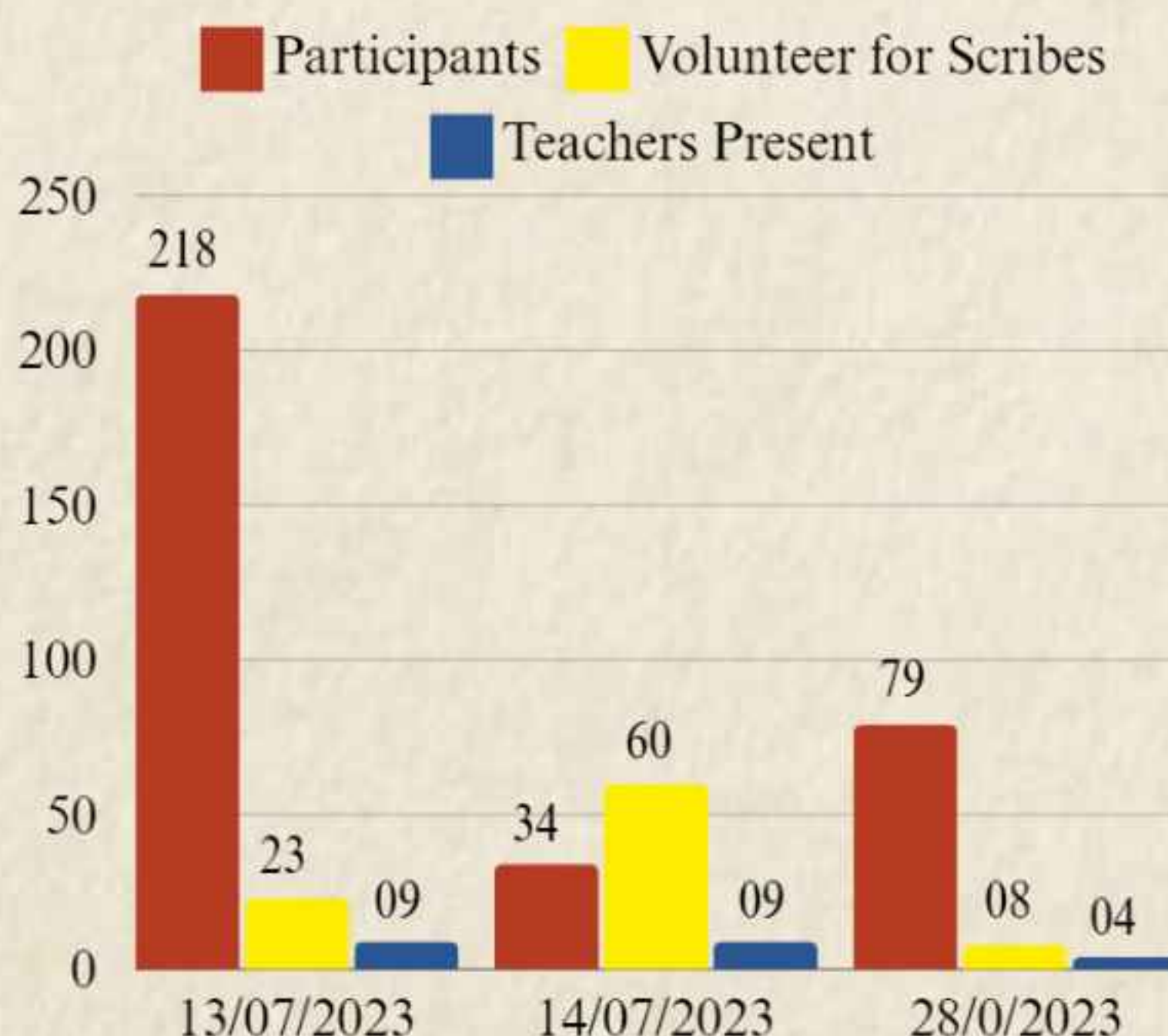
Webinar on RPwD Act 2016

24/05/2023: Swabhiman(DLU-East) conducted a Webinar on RPwD Act- 2016 with all the partner organizations of OSdN. There were 41 participants from 30 different organizations working on the issue of disability. The participants were the young professionals of these organizations along with DPO leaders, parents of CwDs etc. During the question-answer session participants raised their concerns regarding the implementation of RPwD Act-2016 in their localities, provisions made under the act and some queries related to procedure to avail social security schemes and inclusive education.



Disability Sensitization Program at Schools

13-14 and 28/ 07/2023: Disability orientation programs, aligning with the NEP-2023's emphasis on inclusive education, were conducted at Prabhuji English Medium School and Saraswati Sishu Vidya Mandir in Bhubaneswar, enhancing students' understanding and empathy towards disabilities, and resulting in numerous volunteers to assist VI peers. Key outcomes included enhanced understanding and empathy towards individuals with disabilities, active participation in simulation activities, and a significant number of students volunteering as scribes for visually impaired students.



Orientation on Disability Perspective in Administration

05/08/2023: Dr Sruti Mohapatra addressed 129 OAS Officers of the 2020 batch on 'The Special Needs of the PwDs and Administration at Gopabandhu Academy of Administration, Bhubaneswar. Dr Mohapatra explained the attributes of the population with disabilities, its unique challenges, reasonable accommodations and how universal designing made smart business. She has oriented the young administrators to add the disability perspective to their work and bring in inclusion.



Sandhan Meet

22/08/2023: Sandhan, the student wing of Swabhiman, was originally established in 2009 with the aim of raising awareness among students about disability and inclusion. Sandhan was reinvigorated to renew its commitment to promote inclusion. It stands as a prominent organization dedicated to advancing inclusion, accessibility, peace, and sustainable development in educational institutions, communities and urban areas. It continues to provide opportunities to the students through Sandhan.

Sandhan's members come from Bhubaneswar and nearby regions, representing institutions such as BJB (A) College, RDW University, Ravenshaw University, Biju Patnaik College, UN (A) College, Sailabala Women's College, Niswas College, Ekamra College, Kamala Nehru Women's College, among others. The relaunch event witnessed active participation from approximately 67 students representing various colleges and universities, including BJB College, Biju Patnaik College of Social Work, NISWASS, Ramadevi Women's University, and UN Autonomous College.

The orientation program featured esteemed speakers, including Commodore Ajay Pattnaik, a retired Navy veteran, Sarthak Pattnaik, a young engineer from IIT Mumbai with a disability, Sambit Kumar Das, a banker, and Dr. Sruti Mohapatra, the founder and CEO of Swabhiman.



Disability Orientation of Social Work Students

05/09/2023: An orientation session for the students of NISWASS (Institute for Social Work), Bhubaneswar was conducted by Tanmayee Sahu, Program Manager, on Understanding Disability, Disability Etiquette and Inclusive Education. It was attended by 6 students who spent one week's time with children with disabilities studying in different government schools in Bhubaneswar and conducted special classes at ICRCs.



Disability Sensitization at NISWASS

11 and 18/10/2023: NISWASS organized disability sensitization programs for BSW and MSW students to deepen their understanding of disability and the challenges faced by students with disabilities in educational settings. Aligned with the National Education Policy-2023's emphasis on Inclusive Education, NISWASS promotes diversity and inclusion. On 11/10/2023, 58 students attended, followed by 11 students on 18/10/2023, aged 19 to 23. Activities included discussions on disability awareness, simulation exercises like foot painting and blindfolding, and presentations on notable figures with disabilities. The program also addressed disability causes, stereotypes, relevant laws, and career options in social work related to disability issues. Overall, it successfully enhanced students' understanding of disabilities and inclusion.



Addressing UConn Indian Students

02/11/2023: The Philanthropy Chairs of the UConn Indian Students Association extended an invitation to Dr. Sruti Mohapatra at 5:30 AM Indian Standard Time (9:00 PM US Eastern Time), to discuss the experiences of individuals with disabilities in India, with a specific emphasis on SwDs and the challenges they faced by SwDs. Dr. Mohapatra shared valuable insights into her ongoing efforts and SwDs and the challenges they faced by SwDs. Dr. Mohapatra shared valuable insights into her ongoing efforts and initiatives aimed at supporting individuals with disabilities during the virtual meeting.

The University of Connecticut (UConn) operates as a public land-grant research university system, with its main campus situated in Storrs, Connecticut. Originally established in 1881 as the Storrs Agricultural School, the institution underwent a name change in 1939 to become the University of Connecticut. Acknowledged as an R1 research institution, UConn holds a significant role as a founding member of the Hartford/Springfield regional economic and cultural partnership alliance, recognized as New England's Knowledge Corridor. Competing in the Big East Conference as the Huskies, UConn has gained notable acclaim for its women's and men's basketball programs, boasting a total of 23 NCAA championships.



Disability Awareness Booth

03/12/2023: During the three-day celebration of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities in 2023,

organized by the SSEPD Department at Biju Patnaik Indoor Stadium, Campus-13 of KIIT, Swabhiman played an active role by setting up a display booth. The primary objective was to showcase research publications, disaggregated data, and print materials related to disability sensitization, along with engaging in simulation activities to raise awareness.

The booth, strategically positioned and managed by young volunteers from various colleges who are active members of Sandhaan, received guidance from the experienced team members of Swabhiman. This initiative aimed to capture the attention of both individuals with and without disabilities.

The simulation activities conducted at the booth proved to be particularly engaging for non-disabled visitors, offering them insights into the experiences of PwDs. Additionally, the booth served as a focal point for activists and researchers interested in accessing valuable research data and publications related to disabilities.

Overall, Swabhiman's presence at the event successfully drew the attention of a diverse audience, contributing to the broader goal of fostering awareness, understanding, and inclusivity for PwDs. The combination of informative materials, interactive simulation activities, and the dedication of young volunteers made the booth a noteworthy and impactful component of the IDPD celebration.



Flagship Programs

Prerana Samman 2023

13/10/2023: 9th Prerana Samman ceremony was held at Jaydev Bhawan, Bhubaneswar to celebrate the success of children with disabilities in matriculation examination. Initiated in the year 2014, it was conceptualised to recognise top scoring students with disabilities in Class X and XII examinations, in the state of Odisha. It is an effort at creating awareness about the potential of students with disabilities in Odisha and simultaneously motivating the students to improve their performance. 116 students with various disabilities were honored from across the thirty districts who had scored above 80% of marks.



They received a scholarship of Rs.1200 for the academic session. Besides 12 students who secured 90% and above will received a gold medal and books worth rupees 3000; 104 students who secured between 80-89% received silver medals and books worth rupees 500 rupees. The medals, certificates, and books they were awarded at the function.

Bratati Harichandan (Disability Commissioner, Odisha), Sulochana Das (Mayor, Bhubaneswar), Retd. Cmd. Ajay Patnaik, Dr. Sruti Mohapatra (Founder and CEO Swabhiman), Brishunucharan Sutar (Joint Director of Inclusive Education) along with other dignitaries felicitated children. Each awardee was presented a certificate and badge. The awardees spoke about their struggles, about their life and achievements that became inspirational for all.

Anjali Children and Youth Festival 2023

14/11/2023 - 16/11/2023: Anjali is a movement for an equal India. It is India's first and only International Children and Youth Festival which aims to bridge gaps for making society more inclusive and restore fun-filled childhood by joyful learning. With a core mission to bridge social exclusion, foster inclusivity, and rekindle the joy of learning for a delightful childhood, the transformative celebration took place at Bhubaneswar's Kalabhumi ground.

The event hosted esteemed guests including Swami Suddhananda Giri ji, Bishnupada Sethi (IAS), Bratati Harichandan, State disability commissioner Manoj Mishra (IAS), Arvind Padhee (IAS), Poly Pattnaik, Priyadarshi Mohapatra, Sabyasachi and Archita Sahu. Taking 366 in-house participants, teacher, parents over 1000 visiting students, and participated in different competitions, workshops and activities. The festival, with its diverse range of participants and activities, successfully fostered an environment of inclusion, and celebration of diversity.

The highlights include inspiring guest speeches, the recognition of scholars, educational city tours, exposure to media houses, and a diverse array of inclusive workshops spanning science, fine art, traditional art, dance, magic, storytelling, pottery, and more. Inclusive competitions,



school visits, the celebration of the festival of joy, and Sambit's selfless donation of his initial monthly salary to support a deserving YwDs. The varied cultural extravaganza left a lasting memory for all participants.

Other Programs

TEDx IMI

28/12/2023: TEDx IMI New Delhi, independently organized TED event, featured six dynamic speakers who ignited profound discussions and connections within a small group setting. The event showcased a diverse range of multidisciplinary topics, with each speaker delivering a compelling 20-minutes talk.



Themed "Beyond Limits," the TEDx event provided a platform for speakers to share their unique perspectives and insights. Among the speakers, Dr. Sruti Mohapatra delivered a talk titled "AGAINST ALL ODDS" to an enthusiastic audience. Her captivating presentation on the trials and tribulations of her life's journey resonated deeply, emphasising how she overcame formidable barriers.

Dr. Mohapatra's talk received resounding applause, with attendees collectively acknowledging her as the standout speaker of the evening. Her inspiring narrative not only sparked meaningful conversations but also left a lasting impression on everyone present, aligning perfectly with the overarching theme of pushing boundaries and transcending limitations.

Jury in State Awards for IDPD

21/11/2023: Dr. Sruti Mohapatra, participated as a jury member to select state awardees for the upcoming event on



IDPD on 03/12/2023. The other jury members were Principal secretary to Government Bishnupada Sethy Chairing the meeting along with Niyati Pattnaik, OAS (SS) Director,

SSEPD and other members from civil societies and Government.

Mr & Miss India Divyang

14/12/2023: Parivartan and Swabhiman jointly unveiled the poster for the upcoming "Mr & Miss India Divyangs" event in Odisha, scheduled for 2024. The initiative aims to challenge stereotypes in the fashion industry and redefine conventional beauty standards by showcasing the talents and distinctive fashion sense of both men and WwDs. The launch event, held in Bhubaneswar, was attended by talented individuals with disabilities from various categories and witnessed the presence of inclusion advocates.



Celebration of Important Days

Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Day

30/05/2023: Organised a photo exhibition on the occasion of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Day at Jaydev Bhawan. There were 59 people who visited the exhibition including employees and interns. In this exhibition, details related to the causes, symptoms, and treatment of Multiple Sclerosis and Parkinson's Disease were presented in a different form. A quiz was conducted for the visitors to know more about the disability. Students from different colleges of Bhubaneswar, CwDs and youth, and their parents attended the exhibition.



Week Long Celebrations of IDPD

ICRC-3

01/12/2023: IDPD was celebrated in a distinctive manner in 2023 by organizing a series of events. The festivities kicked off with school programs hosted at ICRCs. The goal of observing the day was to promote an understanding of disability

issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights, and well-being of individuals with disabilities. The overarching theme for the year was "Transformative solutions for inclusive development: the role of innovation in fueling an accessible and equitable world." ICRC-3 is situated at Mumtaz Ali High School in Nayapalli. The IDPD celebration at ICRC-3 featured engaging activities aimed at fostering a sense of connection for everyone involved. The program commenced with a session emphasizing the importance of inclusivity and the appreciation of differences. a quiz competition was held. Swarnalata Sahoo, the Headmistress of Mumtaz Ali High School, graced the occasion.

ICRC-1

02/12/2023: IDPD celebration continued at ICRC-1, located at BJB College Colony UGUP School in Bhubaneswar. The event had once again meticulously planned by Swabhiman and actively supported by school authorities, ensuring the active participation of students spanning grades 3 to 7.

The IDPD celebration at ICRC-1 included a talk, a quiz focused on disabilities and cluteral program.

In total, 113 students actively participated in the event, comprising 64 girls and 49 boys. Eight students with disabilities (four boys and four girls) actively participated, underscoring Swabhiman's commitment to establishing an inclusive environment where everyone feels valued.

Bijay Sahoo, the Headmaster of the School, graced the occasion.



IDPD at Berhampur University

02/12/2023: Swabhiman, in collaboration with the Barrier-Free Access to Persons with Disabilities (PwD) Cell at Berhampur University, celebrated the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The theme for 2023 was "United in Action to Rescue and Achieve the SDGs for, with and by Persons with Disabilities."

The celebration at Berhampur University included a range of activities. An awareness booth was set up featuring displays of books, reports, bookmarks, and information related to disabilities.

The Vice-Chancellor of Berhampur University, Prof. Geetanjali Dash, inaugurated the booth. Following this, participants, including faculty and students, engaged in simulation activities such as a wheelchair challenge and blindfold activities to gain insights into the challenges faced by PwDs.

Prof. Dash shared her own experience, expressing the difficulty she encountered during the wheelchair simulation activity. Students explored the awareness booth with enthusiasm, eager to acquire knowledge about disabilities.

The stage program commenced with Berahampur University anthem and the lighting of the lamp. Dr. Sharada Prasanna Rout, Convener of the PwD Cell at BU, introduced the distinguished guests. The inaugural address was delivered by Dr. B. Anjan Kumar Prusty, Chairman of the PwD Cell at BU, in the presence of dignitaries, including Rtn. Pradyumna Kumar Bisoyi, President of the Rotary Club of Berhampur, Dr. Mohapatra, and Sabita Sahukar, Member of District Legal Services Authority, Berhampur.

Dr. Mohapatra shared her life journey and experiences with disabilities, motivating the students. Rtn. Pradyumna Kumar Bisoyi and his team distributed assistive devices to the PwD Cell at BU, while Swabhiman provided Braille kits, alternative formats of the RPwD Act, Sashakt reports, etc, to the PwD Cell.

The event also featured film screenings on inclusion, followed by an engaging quiz session for students with attractive prizes. The highlight of the program was the "Colours of Love" celebration, where students enthusiastically played with colors, marking a joyous culmination of the day



IDPD at RD Women's University

03/12/2023: Rama Devi Women's University celebrated its 9th Foundation Day in Bhubaneswar, coinciding with the IDPD. The event was graced by the esteemed presence of His Excellency, the Governor of Odisha, Shri Raghubar Das,

who also serves as the Chancellor of Rama Devi Women's University. Notable figures serving as guests of honor included Shri Ven. Shim San, the Head Monk of Hongbeopsa Temple in South Korea, and Dr Sruti Mohapatra.

During the celebration, Dr. Mohapatra delivered an illuminating speech, sharing insights into her own life and the challenges she encountered. Her motivating words resonated with the students, urging them to aspire for big dreams, work diligently to achieve those dreams, and remain resilient in the face of failures. Her inspirational message aimed to instill a positive mindset and determination among the student community.

On that significant day, Rama Devi Women's University and Swabhiman solidified their dedication to fostering inclusion by officially signing a MOU. This partnership is designed to support collaborative initiatives such as organizing seminars, symposiums, workshops, research, and various other activities aimed at promoting inclusivity in academic settings.



International Day of PwDs at IIMC Dhenkanal

07/12/ 2023: Swabhiman, in collaboration with IIMC Dhenkanal, celebrated the International Day of Persons with Disabilities at IIMC, Dhenkanal. The event featured various activities, including the distribution of bows, badges, bookmarks, and materials on disability etiquette. The program encompassed a talk on disability, quizzes, an awareness booth, and simulation activities, all playing a significant role in promoting awareness and inclusivity. Dr Mohapatra delivered an impactful speech emphasizing the importance of creating a sensitive world. She encouraged students to be well-informed about reporting on disability, drawing motivation from her own life journey. Dr. Mohapatra highlighted the crucial role of media in focusing on individual stories rather than group dynamics. The "Issues in Public Interest" published across various media channels aim to raise awareness about disabilities and related issues, contributing to a more informed and compassionate society. The subsequent question-and-answer session with students further enriched the discussion.



The quiz session, featuring 25 questions and various prizes, added an engaging element to the program, making it both educational and enjoyable for all participants. The awareness booth, showcasing books, reports, bookmarks, and disability-related information, provided an informative experience for attendees. Additionally, simulation activities of wheelchair mobility, blindfold exercises, and mouth or leg painting, were conducted to enhance empathy and awareness among participants, including students and faculty.

International Volunteer Day

10/12/2023: In commemoration of International Volunteer Day which falls on 5th December, Swabhiman observed it on 10/12/2023, joyously celebrating the essence of selflessness and the remarkable contributions made by the dedicated volunteers associated with it. Acknowledging their pivotal role, volunteers were defined as the backbone of Swabhiman, where their talents, skills, involvement, experiences, enthusiasm, and positivity collectively created a substantial impact.

All the volunteers who had work in Anjali 2023 were felicitated. Many games, dance and music and delicious lunch ended the day



World Braille Day 2024

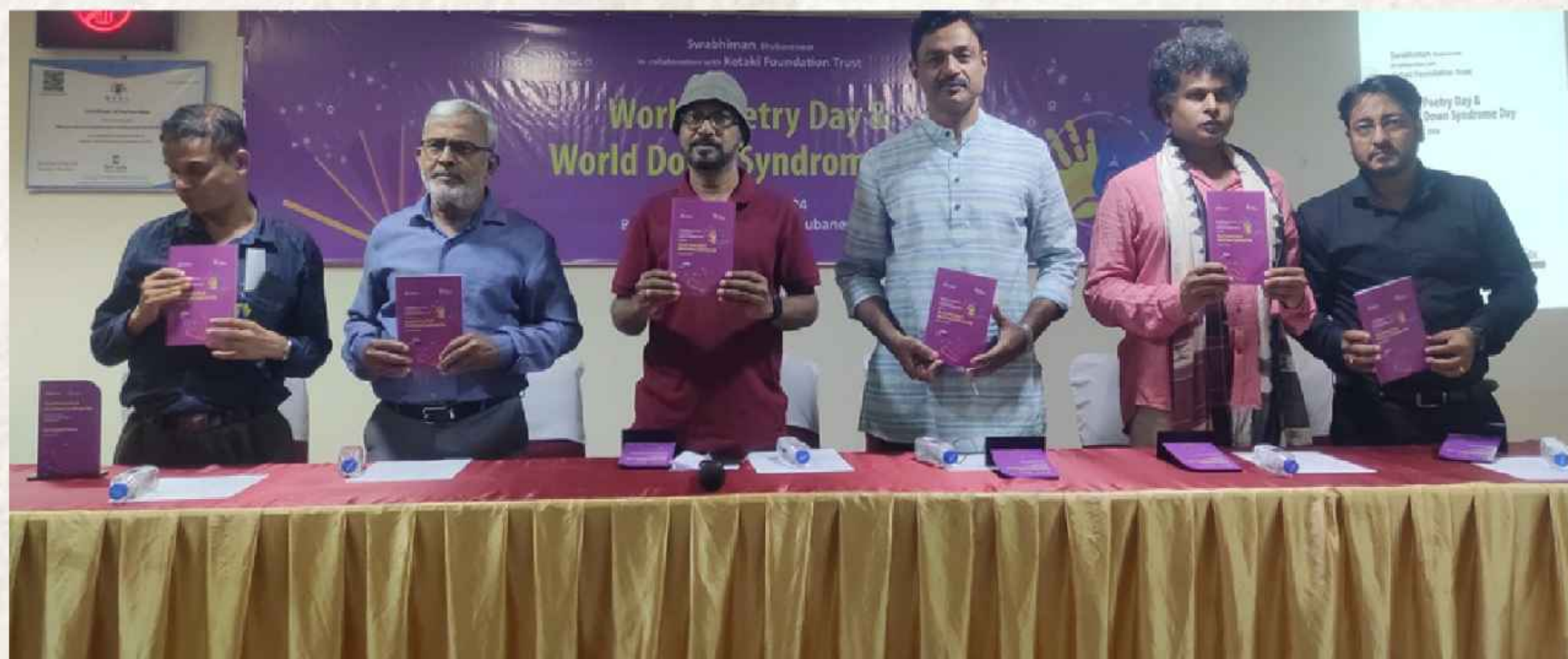
04/01/2024: Swabhiman, in collaboration with CureBay, Bhubaneswar, celebrated the 215th birth anniversary of Louis Braille, commemorating World Braille Day. Esteemed guests, including Sanyashi Behera (OAS), Deputy Secretary of SSEPD, GoO, and Ashok Mohapatra, coordinator of Inclusive Education OSEPA, emphasized the importance of Braille in

educating VI students. Thirty students from four districts of Odisha received Braille kits containing essential tools like Braille slates, styluses, abacuses, mobility canes, and Braille boards. Swabhiman also distributed two fact sheets in print and Braille. Invited guests and teacher trainees were given New Year calendars, fact sheets on health disability and Braille, and printed Braille books on the RPwD Act 2016. The event featured a patriotic song performance by students from Bhabagrahi Model School for the Sightless and an interactive quiz competition. Overall, 53 individuals participated, including 34 students with VI.



World Poetry with Difference

21/03/2024: World Poetry Day with a difference was hosted by Swabhiman at Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan in collaboration with the Ketaki Foundation Trust. The event showcased poetry recitations revolving around themes of inclusion, disability, diversity, and differences. Notable guests, including Ramakanta Samantaray, Sanyashi Behera, Suman Dash, Dr. Sakti Mohanty, and Sailen Routray, delivered speeches and shared their poignant poetry contributions. Behera emphasized the significance of March 21st, drawing parallels to the equinox, and highlighted poetry's ability to evoke conscience and compassion, especially towards individuals with Down syndrome. Dash shared inspiring stories and his Odia poem "Sei Pila Jia Katha Kahi Pare Nahin" to underscore the importance of living in the present and finding purpose amidst challenges. Dr. Sakti Mohanty urged reflection through his poem "Menuere Thiba Gote Sakala," promoting resilience in life's journey. Routray stressed the imperative for inclusion, shedding light on societal gaps and challenges faced by PwDs, particularly women. The second session featured diverse poetry recitations from various stakeholders, including teachers, parents of CwDs, social workers, and students, offering unique perspectives and experiences. The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks from Tanmayee Sahu, Program Manager at Swabhiman, acknowledging the profound insights shared by the poets and participants.



Internship Programs

Orientation of Volunteer

05/11/2023: 44 students from nine colleges, including RDWU, BJB Autonomous, U N College, S B Women's College, Arka College of Management (Kendrapara), IIMC Dhenkanal, Bijupattnaik College of Social Work, and NISSWAS, underwent an orientation session. The purpose was to familiarize them with various disabilities and the necessary accommodations needed for children across different disability categories. They were sensitized through talks, simulation activities and informative presentations.



Engagement with Summer Interns

12/05/2023-12/06/2023: In the summer internship program Swabhiman team members conducted an orientation session on 'Understanding Disability', 'Disability Etiquette' and 'Inclusive Education.' Two more training sessions on Basic Sign Language on 14/05/2023 and 'Entitlements for PwDs' on 15/05/2023 were also conducted. This orientation was for 17 urban youth who were students of different degree colleges of Bhubaneswar city namely BJB Autonomous College, RD Women's University, and Biju Patnaik College of Social Work, Bhubaneswar. These sessions helped the students in gelling with the students with disabilities coming to the ICRCs functioning in Government schools of Bhubaneswar. It also helped them in understanding the issue of disability, the challenges faced by PwDs as well as various laws, Acts and schemes ensuring their rights. This learning journey of the interns yielded some impactful outputs in the form of audio visual IEC materials, innovative TLM as well as audio books.



Voices of Interns

It was an Amazing experience that I will treasure forever. I learnt the importance of team work & power of empathy.

Gurudeep Behera

It was an extremely good experience working with Swabhiman and also Special Students. I learnt TLM Making, behavioural skills, empathy, patience etc.

Khusboo Das

It was a delightful experience that I would cherish forever. I learnt a lot of new things like TLM Making, documentation, report making, event management etc

Divyanee Pattnaik

I had a great experience with Swabhiman during my one-month internship and also learnt so many skills like; time management, event management, self-development, group efforts etc

Arpita Pattnaik

It has been an amazing experience working with the Swabhiman team & Privilege to work with Special Students and get to know a lot about Disability.

Purnima Pattnaik

It was a great experience working with Children with Disabilities and the Swabhiman team. I learnt patience

Debasmita Mohanty

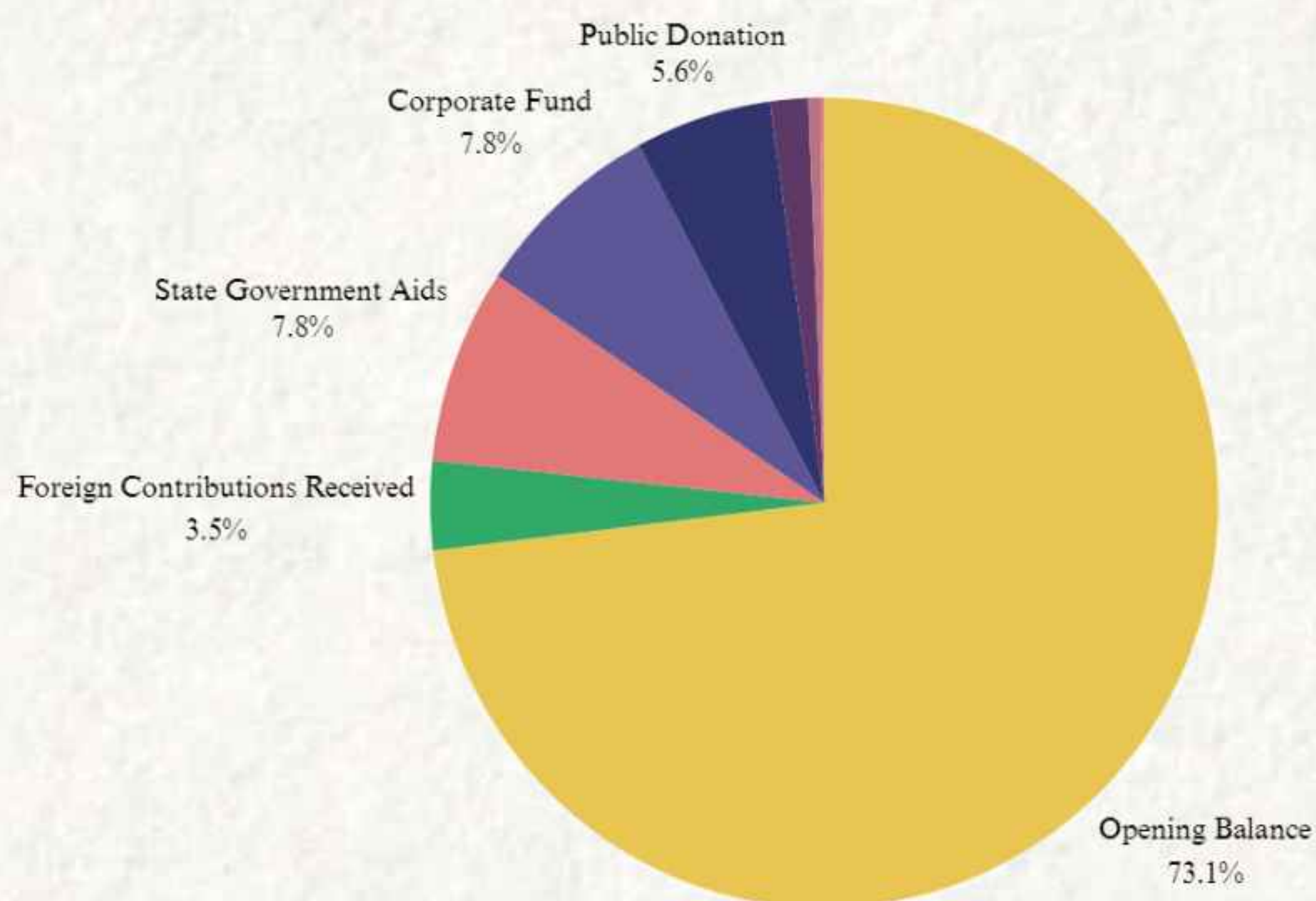
This internship has taught me to learn and adapt to the World in simple and creative ways. I've also learned about disability

Snehal Pattnaik

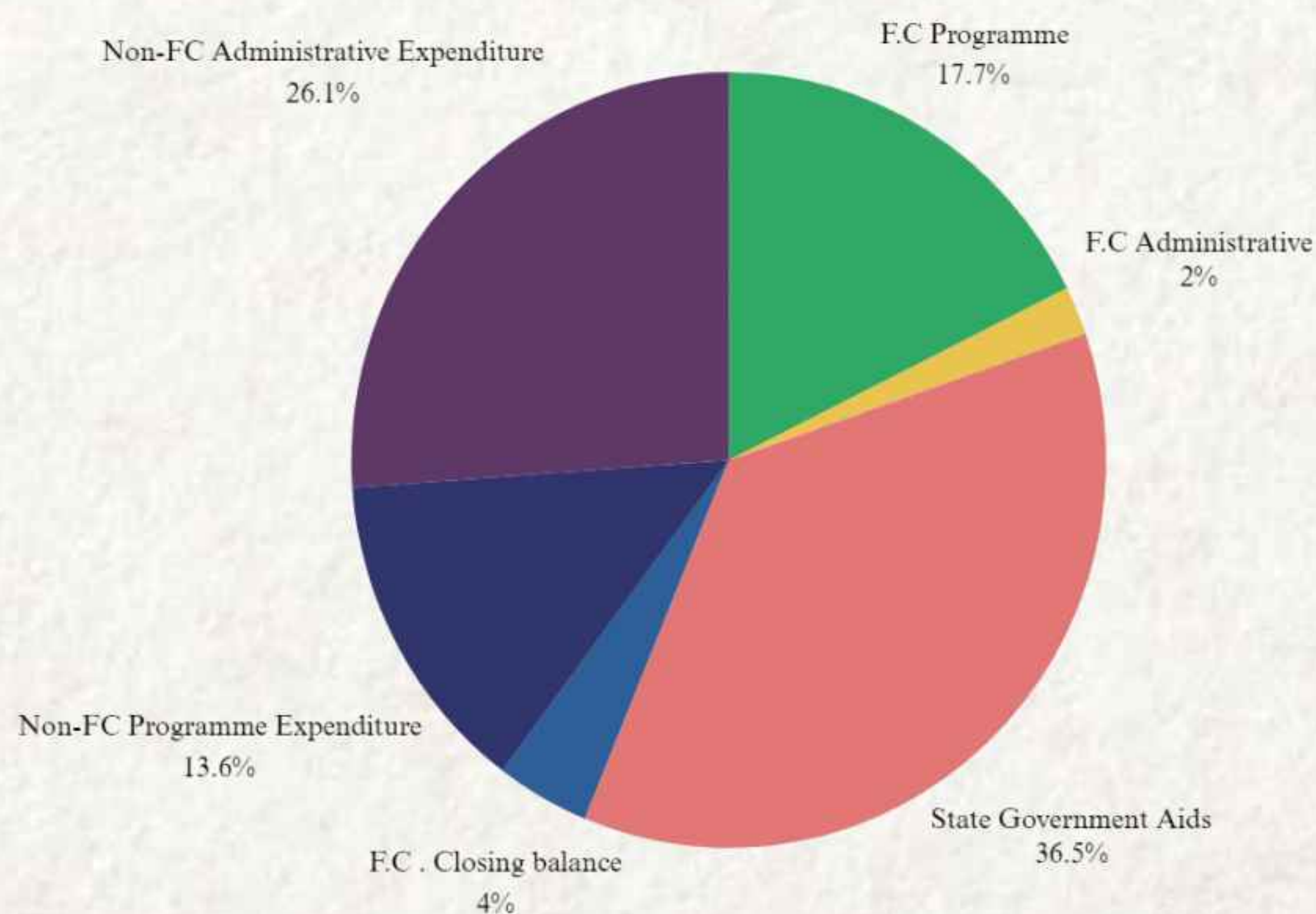
Financial Summary

(FY 2023-2024)

Source of Income



Expenditure



Our Partners



Financial Summary



PDR & ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants

Plot No. L-3/76, Acharya Vihar
Near Water Tank, Bhubaneswar-751013
Ph. : 9437048570, 9437041968
Email: ddas_2001@yahoo.com
ppanda_22@yahoo.co.in

AUDITORS' REPORT

To,
The Secretary
SWABHIMAN, A DISABILITY INFORMATION AND RESOURCES CENTRE
A/98, BUDHA NAGAR, BHUBANESWAR, ORISSA-751006

We have examined the attached **CONSOLIDATED** Balance Sheet of **SWABHIMAN, A DISABILITY INFORMATION AND RESOURCES CENTRE, A/98, BUDHA NAGAR, BHUBANESWAR, ORISSA** as at 31st, March 2023, the Consolidated Income and Expenditure Account and Consolidated Receipt and Payment Account for the year ended on that date which are in agreement with the books of account maintained by the organization

These financial statements are the responsibility of the entity's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in India. Those standards require that, we plan & perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material mis-statements. An audit includes examining on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts & disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used & significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statements presentation. We believe that, our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us the said financial statements give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India.

- (i) In case of the Balance sheet of the state of affairs of the above named organization as at 31st, March 2023.
- (ii) In case of the Income and Expenditure account of the Excess of expenditure over Income of its accounting year ending on 31st March 2023.

Place : Bhubaneswar
Date : 13.10.2023



For PDR & Associates
Chartered Accountants

Dweipayan Das
Dweipayan Das
(FCA, DISA)
Partner

Branch Office - DAV School Campus, Rajabagicha, Cuttack, Dist-Cuttack, Pin-753009
Ph. : 0671-2349700, 9437961710, Email:rajkumarroutray@yahoo.co.in

Financial Summary

SWABHIMAN
A DISABILITY INFORMATION AND RESOURCES CENTRE
A/98, BUDHA NAGAR, BHUBANESWAR -751006
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST MARCH, 2023

LIABILITIES	AMOUNT(RS)	AMOUNT(RS)	ASSETS	AMOUNT(RS)
<u>General Fund :</u>			<u>Fixed Assets :</u>	
Opening Balance	59,10,062			
Less : Excess of Expenditure over Income	10,45,761	48,64,302	(As Per Schedule I)	7,00,530
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES :</u>			<u>CURRENT ASSETS :</u>	
Liability for Expenses	1,06,201			
Salary Payable	4,96,912			
Audit Fees Payable	59,000		TDS Receivable	39,500
TDS Payable	1,56,919			
Consultancy Fees Payable	8,53,400		<u>Closing Balances :</u>	
Rent Payable	27,000		Axis A/c No.-911010049628487-FC	13,18,225
	16,99,432	16,99,432	SBI- A/c No.31642583208	77,14,114
			Bank-SBI- Delhi A/c No.40204814716-FC	22,700
			Cash-in-Hand	185
GOI For Access Audit Work Grant Received in Advance (For Fy-2022-2023)		32,31,520		
		97,95,254		97,95,254

Place : Bhubaneswar
Date : 13.10.2023

Paul Mohapatra
SWABHIMAN
A-98, Budha Nagar
Bhubaneswar-751006



For PDR & Associates
Chartered Accountants
Dweipayan Das
CA. Dweipayan Das
Partner
Mem. No.059698

Financial Summary

SWABHIMAN
A DISABILITY INFORMATION AND RESOURCES CENTRE
A/98, BUDHA NAGAR, BHUBANESWAR -751006

CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED ON 31ST MARCH, 2023

EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT(Rs.)		INCOMES	AMOUNT(Rs.)
To Accomodation	1,04,349	By	Bank Interest	3,16,460
To Assistive Devices	5,98,671	By	Programm Caution Money	26,000
To Awards Prizes & Gifts	1,35,316	By	Mics. Income	55,550
To Audit Fees	59,000			
To Bank Charges	3,237	By	<u>Individual Donation</u>	
To Carnival	3,04,726		Brajendra Kumar Mahapatra	30,000
To Consultation Fees	1,80,000		Gagan Bihari Nityananda Chainy	25,000
To Courier & Postage	8,190		Gayatri Devi	1,00,584
To Capacity Building Training	26,420		Kamalkanta Lenka	5,001
To Developing E-Therapy Video	1,50,000		Pradipta Mohanty	25,000
To Developing Access & Teaching	79,500		Manjusmita Panda	40,000
To Developing Video & SMC	40,000		Swati Panda	3,06,800
To Disalogues in Disability	6,000		Prasanna Rao	6,00,892
To Event	3,01,030			
To E-TDS Filing Fees	6,000	By	<u>Institutional Donation</u>	
To Interest on TDS Payment	2,321		CBM India Trust-Germany	7,19,817
To Infrastructure Setup	1,27,533		Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd.	10,00,000
To Festival of Joy	20,776		NCPEDP	4,50,000
To Fooding & Water Expenses	5,49,192		SSEPD	5,00,000
To Rent	2,000		World Food Programme India	11,23,650
To Liaison With Child Protection	3,165		Dept. of Odia LL & Culture	1,00,000
To Miscellaneous Expenses	20,226			



Financial Summary

To Medicine & First Aid	13,055		
To Newspaper	4,443		
To Photography & Videography	15,000		
To Printing & Photocopy	2,04,209		
To Professional Fees	1,50,000		
To Resource Person	10,100		
To Scholarship	3,09,625		
To Stationary	7,494		
To Salary, Honorarium & Professional Fee	10,18,109		
To Schools Prepared for NIOS	10,000		
To Swayam	4,35,296		
To Technical Staff with Partners	15,000		
To Teacher Supports	5,000		
To Telephone & Fax	884		
To Tenting	3,68,224		
To T-Shirt	1,21,000		
To Training of Anganwadis	1,37,052		
To Training Local Education & Pro	1,00,000		
To Travel & Fuel	3,45,059		
To Venue	37,000		
To Website & Social Media	2,249		
To Welcome Kit	1,17,845		
To Workshop	57,960		
To Depreciation	2,58,259	To Excess of Expenditure over Income	10,45,761
	64,70,515		64,70,515

Place : Bhubaneswar

Date : 13.10.2023

Smita Mohapatra

SWABHIMAN
A-98, Budha Nagar
Bhubaneswar-751006



For PDR & Associates
Chartered Accountants

Dweipayan Das
CA. Dweipayan Das
Partner
Mem. No. 059698

GET TO KNOW US



Facebook



Instagram



X



Linkedin



Youtube



Website

Annual Report 2023-24

Published by:





Celebrating 20 Years
of Fighting for the
Rights of PwDs

A/98, Budhanagar, Kalpana,
Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India, 751006

+91-9238106667 | www.swabhiman.org | contact@swabhiman.org