

VOICE OF SPECIALLY ABLED PEOPLE



Newsletter: March, 2016

February 21, 2016 : To advance Accessible India Campaign (AIC) for its implementation, VoSAP - Ahmedabad team took initiative to organize seminar with GICEA (Guj Institute of Civil Engineers and Architects) so that this community of planners, builders and contractors is sensitized for their pivotal role and made aware of the need for Accessible buildings and infrastructure. Include Accessibility features as way to differentiate and compete while show the way to others by transforming Ahmedabad into #1 Accessible Smart City of India. Click [link](#) for details.

VoSAP invited Dr Kamlesh Pandey, Chief Commissioner of PwD, Govt. of India as a key note speaker. With help of Assistive Technology, Shri Pranav Desai, founder of VoSAP, addressed the audience from America. Shri Sanjay Nandan, Disability Commissioner of Guj also addressed the session.

VoSAP and GICEA will form focused teams to work with a) selected builders, b) AUDA, AMC etc. for adopting and implementing Universal Accessibility.

Budget Updates: VoSAP had submitted proposal (click for [link](#) here) to H'ble Railway Minister Shri Suresh Prabhu ji for "Divyang" friendly Railway Budget and we are pleased to share that it was acknowledged by Shri Suresh Prabhu ji himself. Also 4 points were included in the Railway budget.

While transformation journey has a long way to go with several more steps and more resource allocation, we welcome the steps announced in this budget and VoSAP will continue to work with the Railway Ministry to implement the Vision of Safe and Accessible Indian Railways. Click here the [link](#) for the details.

1. Paid porter services for assistance (incl battery operated vehicles) for SAP and seniors
2. Accessible Toilets on all platforms of A-1 class stations
3. Part of AIC, all stations, currently under re-development will be made fully accessible
4. Additional number of wheel chairs will be provided at Railway stations for safe and comfortable transportation

Dear all VoSAPians and supporters of VoSAP,

Our VoSAP team of volunteers is growing and with this growth, we are able to create larger impact in multiple communities and multiple areas such as awareness creation with events like Habitat Conclave in Ahmedabad.

We congratulate our Ahmedabad team of VoSAP, led by Shri Rohitbhai, Shri Joy and Shri Amitbhai who drove volunteer registration at VoSAP booth and organized the event with GICEA.

We also congratulate our VoSAP Bangalore team, led by Shri Lalithkumar, who participated at Makeathon event organized by International Red Cross (ICRC) to promote innovation in Assistive Technology, 60 BN\$ global market by year 2020. 17 teams were in final round including teams from IIT, Chennai, FUJI Foot and teams from Indore, Kolam, the US etc. Click the [link](#) here for the details on this event.

Friends, we have tremendous, unprecedented opportunity to inspire our friends to [join our team](#) of volunteers and create a lasting transformation impact by conducting events, undertaking volunteer tasks on Accessibility, research etc. (listed on website).

[Important Links](#)

1. [Priority Assistive Products List](#) - 50 products identified by WHO after survey of 10,000 participants from 160 countries. Stay tuned for more updates.
2. Inspiring story of young visually impaired Entrepreneur [Srikanth](#)

We have several tasks and projects for volunteers. Please check out on our website and let us know your interest .

Join our [passionate team of volunteers](#) at: www.voiceofsap.com
