

VOICE OF SPECIALLY ABLED PEOPLE



Newsletter: March 2017

Dear Friends,

Wishing you all a very Happy Holi!

January 7 2017; Jamnagar, India: Collector of Jamnagar district, Shri R. J. Makadia has taken active interest to develop Divyang friendly district. He adopted VoSAP's "Sankalp Patra" - comprehensive district development framework for the district. Over 100 officers of district administration were invited to a meeting on Jan 7 to discuss details of Sankalp Patra with VoSAP volunteers Shri Lalit Kumar and Shri Chandrashekhar. Via Skype, Shri Pranav Desai spoke with Collector, Dy Collector, DDO, head of police, health and PwD department of Jamnagar district. VoSAP volunteers are now working with other district collectors to adopt similar agenda.

February 20, 2017; Gaandhinagar, India: With great efforts of Dr Bhushan Punani, Adviser of VoSAP and several leaders in disability sector in Gujarat, VoSAP has been able to keep its promise made to H'ble CM of Gujarat during the meeting on Dec 3 2016. **Comprehensive Draft policy for Divyang jan was formally submitted to Govt. of Gujarat on February 20 2017.** We sincerely appreciate commitment of Shri Ashwani Kumar (IAS, PS to CM), Shri Kamal Dayani (IAS, Principal Secretary, Social justice and Empowerment Department) and other officers. We expect that this policy will soon be approved by H'ble CM Shri Vijay Rupani so that Gujarat becomes first state in India with such comprehensive policy for Divyang jan, in line with new RPD ACT 2016.

March 2 2017; New Delhi, India: VoSAP volunteer and Govt of India approved access auditor **Ms Suvarna Raj conducted the workshop - "Basics of Accessibility" at NDMC** (New Delhi Municipal Council). This workshop was aimed at **sensitizing 260+ civil engineers and planners at NDMC** so they can ensure full compliance to the Accessibility standards for making New Delhi, fully accessible. VoSAP's Shri Sridhar addressed the attendees and stressed on need for inclusive development. We appreciate the leadership of secretary Ms Chanchal Yadav, IAS to make this happen and looking forward to work on follow up road map etc. and continue to provide thought leadership to NDMC.

January 3, 2017; New Delhi, India: Health Ministry of Govt. of India has started working on multiple initiatives and VoSAP has been connected to respective **IAS officers in the ministry** to drive the Vision to Reality. We appreciate this level of commitment for the cause of Divyang jan by H'ble minister Shri Nadda ji and team at Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

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January 31 2017; Atlanta, USA: Our volunteer base is expanding. Latest [addition is Atlanta chapter of VoSAP](#), where lead volunteers like Shri Nimish Sevak, Shri Mustafa Ajmeri, Shri Jatin Shah, Shri Nikhil Shirke, Ms Jui Bhingarde, Ms Radhika have inspired over 20 corporate, community, media and spiritual leaders for VoSAP cause. This team has planned several action items including event in April. VoSAP chapters have started regular monthly meetings of volunteers for creating actual impact on the ground.

Our volunteer from Surat, [Shri Rana Kataria is skilling Divyang jan for using computer software for planning of Diamond polishing and has hired 3 Specially Abled People.](#)

As part of inspiring corporate leaders for Empowering SAP, VoSAP team met [Shri Desh Deshpande \(serial Entrepreneur\)](#), [Shri Mohandas Pai \(Ex - Infosys\)](#), [Shri Devanshu Gandhi, MD of Vadilal Ice-cream.](#)

We are looking forward to your inputs, suggestions and active support to transform India's disability sector together.

We have several volunteer tasks and projects for volunteers.

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

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