



An Organization in Special Consultative Status
with United Nations ECOSOC

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

EXHIBITION OF
ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

CLICK HERE TO ENTER

VOICE OF SPECIALLY
ABLED PEOPLE

20
YEARS

VOSAP
APP
18000
enabled people

VOSAP
IMPACT
3000
SAPs enabled

VISION

To operate as the “Transformation Catalyst” for the world to become an “ACCESSIBLE” and “INCLUSIVE” place where Specially Abled People enjoy equality as human beings, opportunity to excel and contribute based on their abilities and live with dignity and independence.

MISION

Using technology tools, create a mass movement of “CHANGE MAKERS” with their collective THOUGHT LEADERSHIP, ACTIONS and ADVOCACY for the EMPOWERMENT of Specially Abled People (SAP). We promote Accessibility, Education and Employment with help of Assistive Technologies for SAP to build an INCLUSIVE 21st century society. We enable Specially Abled People, VOSAPians and ecosystem partners with user-friendly digital tools developed by VOSAP and information, research and data points to strengthen advocacy for bringing change.

VOSAP IMPACT

- **3,500+** lives of SAP changed FOREVER with Assistive Devices and Surgical Intervention
- Supported **6,500+** Persons with Disabilities during Covid pandemic with grocery and PPE kits
- Launched World's 1st Virtual Assistive Technology Exhibition with **19 exhibitors from 4 countries**
- Growing mass movement of world's 1st Online Community of **~11,000** Registered Volunteers sharing VOSAP mission, supporting Persons with Disabilities
- Engaged **3,000+** Youth (college going students) with 15+ Universities (U.C. Berkeley, USC, Nirma University, etc.) to volunteer with VOSAP
- Launched **VOSAP Ignite** Volunteering Program for Highschool students of USA with **26 Students**
- Rated **18,700+** public places for wheelchair accessibility in VOSAP mobile app
- **700+** people inspired to donate to VOSAP, Raised **\$580,000 in 2021**
- **5 MN+** people outreach on social media platforms, promoting VOSAP mission, programs

FOUNDER'S MESSAGE

Dear friends,

I am happy to share that VOSAP has completed 5 years of its journey with several remarkable achievements, establishing a strong foundation to accelerate our impact and realize our global vision in coming decades together.

We all rang in 2021 with positivity and hope, embracing the 'new normal' created as an outcome of the global pandemic. The widespread acceptance of the virtual experience of life, created exciting new opportunities in education, learning and remote working. VOSAP's mission gained momentum with virtual volunteering and new digital tools developed by VOSAP.



For the year 2021, the biggest highlight was the Grand Launch of the World's 1st Virtual Exhibition for Assistive Technology Products from innovators from US, India, Germany and Japan during VOSAP annual event on Dec 4th. It is now open 24x7 and has attracted thousands of visitors. During the launch, we were joined by leading experts from WHO, Govt of India and AT industry who share the VOSAP vision of making access to innovation and assistive devices for Specially Abled People, easier and barrier-free. VOSAP has connected consumers and AT companies to interact on the VOSAP platform. Our Annual Event was a joyous culmination of yet another challenging year which allowed us to strengthen our foundation and resources so that we can scale up the impact in 2022 with the goal to enable 5,000 SAP.

The year 2021 saw VOSAP presenting ideas and initiatives to several global corporations and government institutions in the USA and India viz CII (Confederation of Indian Industries), City of San Jose and Los Angeles, corporations like Salesforce, Accenture, Eli Lilly etc. for increasing awareness of Accessibility and Inclusion of Specially Abled People in the workforce. VOSAP launched an "Online Job Portal" where job opportunities are listed for Specially Abled People, shared by our inspired corporate partners.

In 2021, our Enablement program was limited to providing the gift of vision, enabling 2,100 visually impaired individuals through surgical interventions. To expand enablement with Assistive Devices, as a tech savvy NGO, we developed an Online application system on the VOSAP website so SAP can directly apply for assistive devices and self-employment kits. As of now 14 products are available to choose from!

VOSAP's Youth Programs continued to attract University students from India and the US to participate in Research Internship 2021. They undertook some exceptional research studies during the summer. I am very proud that VOSAP established its first club at UC Berkeley, USA. Extending the youth program to high school students, "VOSAP Ignite" was launched for 9 months of structured volunteering with VOSAP, with the first batch of 26 students.

As I reflect on the path we have chosen and ponder on the goals of 2022, my heart fills with gratitude for all the blessings we had to reach where we are today. We began with a simple idea to improve the lives of Persons with Disabilities by bringing their 'voice', their humanity and oneness with us to everyone in society and mobilize compassionate action. I am grateful to all our volunteers, donors, supporters who joined and helped propel the work forward to new heights and have committed to walk with us till we achieve our unified vision of an accessible and inclusive world.

May we work together with great energy! { ॐ सह वीर्यं कर्वा वहे! }

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LAUNCH OF THE WORLD'S 1ST VIRTUAL EXHIBITION OF ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS AND SERVICES (events.voiceofsap.org)



ABOUT THE EXHIBITION & ANNUAL EVENT

VOSAP vision of empowered Specially Abled People relies on adoption, penetration of affordable, innovative Assistive Technology products and Services. With 80,000+ patents filed in this sector in the last 10 years, opportunities are immense. During summer 2021, VOSAP interns did the research and encouraged with the outcomes, VOSAP decided to create a digital platform, virtual exhibition that is stable, scalable, open for 24x7 and digitally accessible too for consumers, professionals, business people around the world to visit and connect directly with exhibitors. With help of vFairs.com, VOSAP launched the world's 1st virtual AT exhibition In 2021 during VOSAP's Annual Event held on Dec 4th. The exhibition is open for all, at NO COST, around the year and currently has 19 exhibitors from countries like India, Japan, Germany and USA.

The launch event had registrations from over 2,000 participants from 27 countries. Several imminent personalities including The Honorable Minister of State for External Affairs, Govt. of India, Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi, Mr. Chapal Khasnabis, Head (a.i) of Access to Assistive Technology – WHO, and Mr. Prateek Madhav, co-founder, and CEO of the AssisTech Foundation (or ATF), engaged with audiences at the event.

Mr. Chapal Khasnabis expressed tremendous satisfaction for VOSAP for launching this platform and believes it will create many new opportunities for the Assistive Technology stakeholders.

Honorable Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, congratulated VOSAP for launching this platform and wished success for the virtual exhibition through a letter to VOSAP founder Mr. Pranav Desai.

During the event, Shri Manu Shah, Chairman, MSI Surfaces also announced that in addition to being the angel sponsor for the event, the MSI Charitable Trust will provide matching donation upto USD 250,000 for anyone donating to the cause.

Thanks to the support of Mr. Shah and VOSAP donors, the annual event raised donations of \$350,000 in 11 days that will enable SAP/Divyangjan with Assistive Products.

ABOUT THE EXHIBITORS

The virtual exhibition currently hosts 19 companies from 4 countries. VOSAP aims to expand the exhibitors base in the year 2022 and become the coveted destination for all assistive technology Innovators. It will attract business stakeholders like global NGOs, companies (CSR) interested to take the products to every country in the world so that more PwD can have access to life-changing devices,

Please visit the exhibition at events.voiceofsap.org and share the information with anyone who can benefit with the knowledge and information.

HERE'S A GLIMPSE AT OUR PRESENT EXHIBITORS



Instalimb, Inc. is solving the problem of affordability for over 90 million people who cannot purchase prosthetics & orthotics. The Tokyo-based company uses 3D printing and machine learning (AI) technology to create affordable, high-quality 3D printed prosthetics & orthotics. They are looking at entering the Indian market and VOSAP is looking forward to work with them.



Indent Designs is designing and innovating personal mobility devices customized especially to tackle Indian road conditions. Made out of cycle parts, maintenance cost is extremely low. The 'Ibex' series wheelchair is built with a high-performance motor, ensuring that Persons with Disabilities, as well as geriatrics, can commute across multiple terrains, indoor as well as outdoor.



Neomotion is enabling easy and comfortable mobility with state of the art CUSTOMIZED wheelchairs to move in the home and battery operated easy add-on for road travel for Persons with Disabilities. Their innovation was incubated at IIT Madras. Through their life-transformative products NeoFly and NeoBolt, they are redefining what mobility means for the mobility impaired & elderly.



Tactopus is an online platform that makes learning inclusive by providing outcome-driven intervention services, home-based plans, training, and learning resources for children with behavior, motor, academic, and speech delays or concerns.



Thinkerbell Labs have designed a product Annie, which is the world's first self learning braille device for the visually impaired. Annie enables a student to learn to read, write and type braille on their own. Through the companion app a teacher can monitor real time progress of the student, schedule tests and homework. This product was featured in Shark tank India and also has partner to sell in the US market.



Dextroware Devices, IIT-Madras incubated start-up has developed a unique product line that includes "Mouseware." It's a headset which works easily on bluetooth and allows users to operate computers and smartphones. This will help people with upper limb impairment to have hands free navigation and typing etc. Their product is only \$200 while similar products in the US are more than \$1,500



Trestle Labs is empowering the blind and visually-impaired community for inclusive education, employment, and content accessibility through the KIBO line of products. Kibo holds patent, they enable reading texts, handwriting in image, pdf, with help of their combination of hardware and software products. 50,000+ visually impaired people in India have been using their app



Torch It is an Ahmedabad- based social impact venture whose flagship product-Saarthi, an assistive aid designed is improving mobility for the visually impaired. TorchIt is pioneering a new range of credible yet affordable assistive technology products/services. They also got featured in Shark Tank India. Their patented software has lowered the retail price on Amazon to \$40



Saika Mobility hub has been catering to thousands of people with varying degrees of locomotor disabilities, with their adaptive driving kit and custom modifications for vehicles, They design vehicles with a dual operating system that allows disabled people and their families to drive the same vehicle.



Avaz Inc is an award-winning company that is bringing innovative augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) solutions to help children and adults with complex communication needs The growing venture is among few AT products that are being exported into the US from India!



INALI FOUNDATION, an Indian non-profit organization that has already enabled people with robotic prosthetics for upper arms, below the elbow. Supported by Sudha Murthy, Inali Foundation is leading the market in creating affordable assistive health care services.



Munevo, from Germany, makes the state-of-the-art product munevo DRIVE. It supports Persons with extreme Disabilities in their strive for independent mobility - even if they are not able to use their hands anymore. One can enjoy hands-free wheelchair driving with munevo DRIVE based on SMART Glass technology integrated to the power wheelchair.



Robo Bionics is based at Maharashtra and their Product Grippy, Designed, engineered, and made in India is a 3D printed Prosthetic hand with a sense of touch and multi-grip control. It is alightweight battery-powered prosthesis for people with below elbow amputation age 15 years and above. They use chips that work at neuron level to detect correct signals for fingers.



Cogniable has developed a machine learning based solution to detect Autism at a very early stage. They have helped thousands of people at AIMS and received grants from the Government of India also. Their technology is video based ML to detect eye movement and audio signals to plot on the autism spectrum. They also provide technology based therapy.



True Assistive Technology is a design innovation company focused on developing solutions, helping safe commuting for mobility impaired people. True Assistive Technology have created a whole line of assistive tech products such as car seats that are maneuvered to help safe transitions.



Ferro Equip Foundation was established by Dr. Rodricks, who is an automobile expert, has an experience of over 35 years in automobile engineering for customizing vehicles and tools for people with special needs. Ferro Equip have various Solutions for adaptive Vehicle modifications, foldable ramps and have modified thousands of cars in India.



BPA is VOSAP partner and while they serve the disability community in many ways, one of the key differentiators is that they also manufacture best quality wheelchairs, tricycles, crutches etc. to last very long in Indian conditions. VOSAP has helped hundreds of SAP with their products and is now taking it to larger markets in India.



No matter the language, disability, device, or location, Translate Live offers an accessible communication solution. Founded by US-based Peter Hayes, a successful businessman and innovator, Translate Live provides revolutionary technology that helps overcome every communication barrier- especially for the hearing and speech impaired!



Visio apps is a tech startup established in 2018 in India, building the next generation accessibility apps. Visioapps try to understand the needs of visually impaired people and develop technological solutions that help them navigate the world better. Louie Voice Control is an Android app which lets you control your phone apps, just by voice commands.

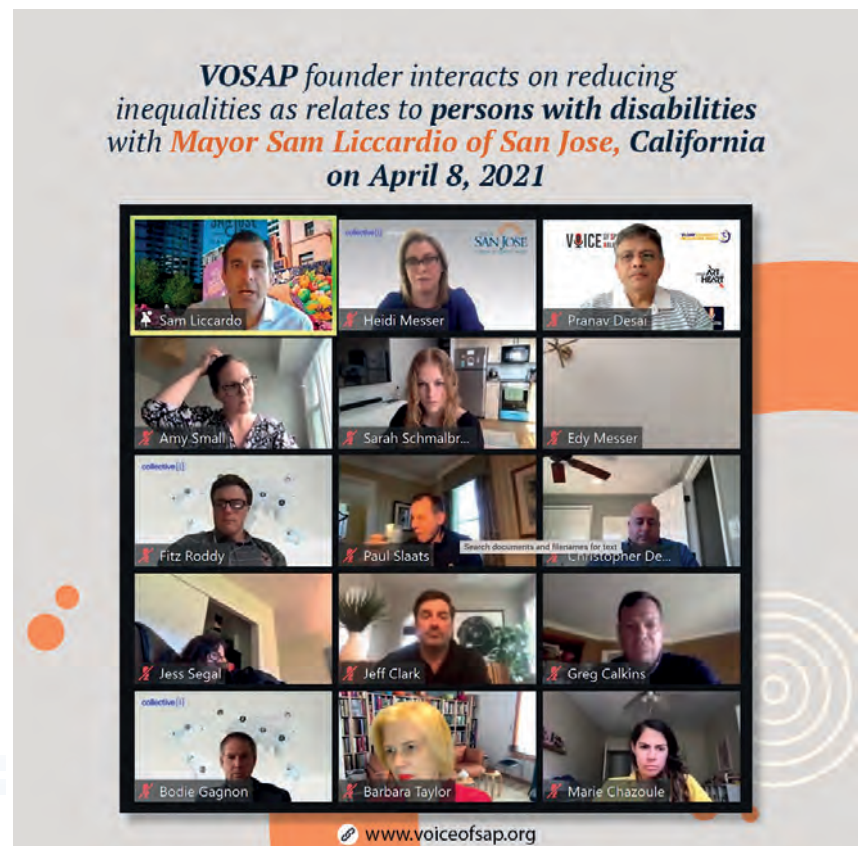
ADVOCACY

VOSAP's Advocacy aims to change the perception of Persons with Disability (PwD) by focusing on their "Ability". It is important to harness untapped potential that exists with everyone and we need to highlight them, bring it to the notice of the masses and leaders, to find sustainable benefits to mainstream PwD in our communities.

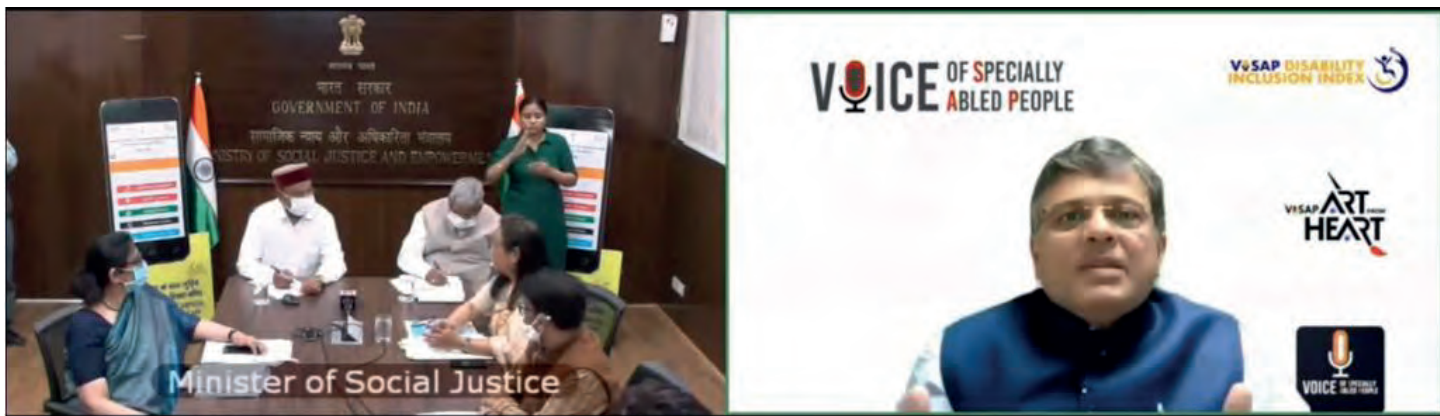
From being invited as panelist at global events to representing data-driven research to leading companies, VOSAP's Advocacy program in 2021 saw some exciting highlights. Our engagements with government bodies in India and USA have led to new collaborations. Our Point of View, stories are inspiring global audiences and research is supporting business strategies. VOSAP's mission and vision is resonating with global leaders as well as with high school students!

ADVOCACY WITH GOVERNMENTS

City of San Jose: VOSAP founder Mr. Pranav Desai had an encouraging interaction with the Mayor of San Jose, CA Mr. Sam Liccardo earlier in the year to explore how the city can help their citizens with disabilities. Mr. Liccardo was so enthralled, he arranged for an interaction with the Chief Innovation Officer of the city of San Jose- Mr. Jordan Sun. VOSAP presented its digital tools for accessibility and inclusion along with ideas on improving these aspects in the city. We're looking forward to working closely with the Mayor's office to impact positively.



Los Angeles City Councilwoman and team: Another fruitful interaction this year that has just started is with a virtual meeting with Mrs. Nithya Raman, Councilwoman of Los Angeles City who along with her team joined VOSAP to explore how we can assist them with our tools, vision and thought leadership. The meetings are at the planning stage and largely intended to focus on helping more than 40% of the homeless population in the city who are Persons with Disabilities.



VOSAP at Launch of Govt of India's Sugamya Bharat App: VOSAP founder has been working with the Govt. of India and successfully launched the Accessible India Campaign. In 2021, thanks to this continued association, Mr.Desai was invited to the launch of "Sugamya Bharat" mobile App. It empowers the citizens to lodge a complaint for non- accessible public places, which then will be routed to local authorities by Govt of India for suitable actions.

ADVOCACY WITH CORPORATIONS

VOSAP founder speaks to ISACA, Washington Chapter: Mr Pranav Desai kickstarted the year as a panelist on a discussion titled 'Diversity and Inclusion Panel 2021', hosted by the International Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA), Greater Washington DC Chapter.

Established in 1974, the chapter consists of 4,000+ members who are all IT Professionals from the area. VOSAP founder introduced the mission and innovative tools including the Disability Inclusion Index (DII) which helps

corporations to improve their understanding of disability related business opportunities, adopt policy and programs to continuously improve, harness business benefits and increase stakeholder values.



Interactions with global corporations: VOSAP's vision and mission was presented to several corporations this year. Our volunteers managed to schedule a speaking session for VOSAP founder at Salesforce (ERG), CFO of Eli Lilly and Company (India) and leaders of Accenture (US and India both). We discussed CSR initiatives and opportunities of collaboration with VOSAP for hiring of PwD. Mr. Desai also spoke extensively about Accessibility and Assistive Technology on a panel for an event with the Accenture USA team.

Mr. Desai met up with Stephane Leblois, Director of Partnerships of Valuable 500, a leading global organization in the disability sector, having pledges from 500 CEOs of global companies, who committed to disability inclusion. Mr. Desai introduced VOSAP DII (Disability Inclusion Index) framework and VOSAP Digital Tools to strengthen the Valuable 500 mission as a partner organization.

Corporate Advocacy through research: In 2021, we were able to take our data-driven research project to highlight the importance of representation. VOSAP interns presented their study on "Representation of PwDs in Advertising", to employee town hall at Duncan Channon, a leading, progressive advertising agency from San Francisco. It resulted in quick action, CEO asking the team to identify casting characters with disabilities regardless of roles.

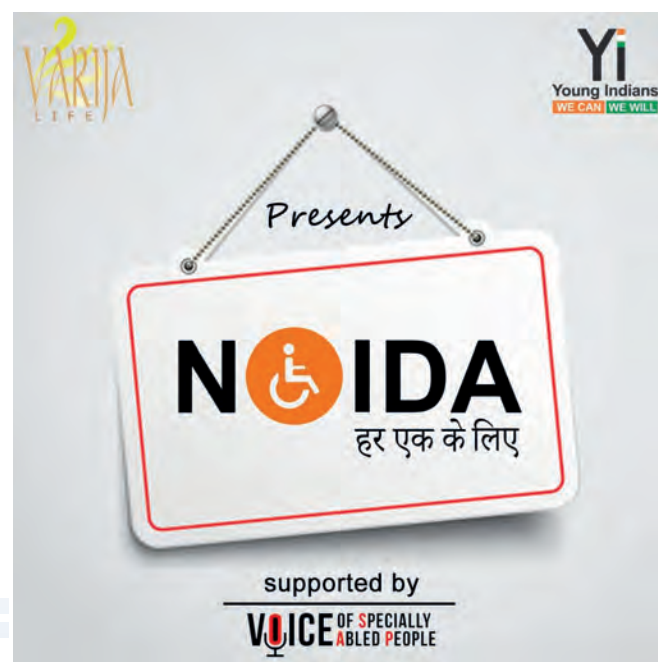


Partnership with Confederation of Indian Industries (CII): VOSAP partnered with National Volunteering Grid (NVG), India@75, an initiative by Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) alongside other non profits like SBI Foundation. The initiative aims to encourage youth volunteering to empower specially-abled people by rating buildings for accessibility and inspiring them to take a pledge to volunteer.

In September 2021, CII also organized its 2nd edition of Delhi Tech Summit on the theme of Scaling Sustainable Growth: Through cutting-edge Innovation & Smart Technologies.

VOSAP Founder was invited to the inaugural session on Innovative and Assistive Technology, focusing on how technology based initiatives can help make the world more inclusive and accessible. VOSAP's work and vision shared during the discussion deeply inspired Santulan Chaubeyji, Joint Director (IT), and Director of Government of Delhi, who subsequently invited Team VOSAP to share more about the accessibility using VOSAP app and explore ways to help make Delhi more accessible. Please find more details [here](#).

Noida for Everyone Initiative: In an effort to make Noida fully accessible, VOSAP has joined hands with Young Indians, CII, Noida and Varija Life to sensitize and raise awareness among the people of Noida, India with the launch of "Noida - हर एक के लिए (Noida for Everyone)". Using the VOSAP app as the technology platform, the initiative hopes to improve public participation in ensuring better accessibility for Specially Abled People in the city.



Compassionate Capitalism with Rotary Club: VOSAP was invited as a special guest at the Rotary Club of South Delhi to speak about 'Compassionate Capitalism'. The virtual meeting was a thought-provoking session for the Rotarians to understand VOSAP's work and vision, and learn about their individual role in helping improve accessibility for people around them.



Panelist at Sarthak Conference on Disability: Mr. Pranav Desai was invited to speak as a panelist at Sarthak Educational Trust - 8th National Conference on Disability on Saturday, December 18th. The panel explored the topic of 'Digital Divyang: Enabled and Empowered'. At the conference, he emphasized on the Accessible India Campaign and scaling mass movement using VOSAP mobile app that is aimed to be a "Public Utility App" for accessibility information of public places.

EK NAYI SOCH, EK NAYA NAZARIYA:

VOSAP Advocacy is effective with data, research, technology tools, art and this year volunteers came up with ideas for skits, drama and acting to sensitize people. VOSAP volunteers in Los Angeles, USA came up with a very strong and inspiring message for everyone. *'Ek Nayi Soch, Ek Naya Nazariya'* is a short film that explains the importance of 'Inclusive Education', promotes *New Thought, New Perspective - Inclusive perspective!*

VOSAP volunteers in Los Angeles, USA came up with the script, acted and produced this very impactful short film that has several messages to get inspired to speak up for inclusive education. Accessible Toilets and Accessible Educational Campus are the need of the hour. No one should be denied the Right to Education.

VOSAP volunteers: Ms Ragini Goel – writer, director and actor. Joined by Raj Rana, Apoorva, Aneesha and Arya Joshipura, Khyati Desai and Usha Desai.



OTHER ADVOCACY INITIATIVES

Collaboration with Compassion in Action: VOSAP had the exciting opportunity to work with the International Art Contest for "Compassion in Action" contest. They hosted the International Virtual Art Contest on the theme of Compassion which culminated with an award ceremony on December 19th, 2021. The contest was powered by VOSAP's robust virtual art platform with technological advanced systems. The platform ensured participants could submit their artworks virtually and allowed judges to



assess them online with rules that enabled completely unbiased ratings.

You can visit our website and discover wonderful and inspiring stories of VOSAP artists from across the world, taking VOSAP mission to their communities.

www.voiceofsap.org/featured-artist

ADVOCACY WITH PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS:

Voice of SAP has extended its advocacy, accessibility and enablement efforts across various states in India with help of its Partner Organizations to make sure the SAPs living in the rural areas are provided with necessary support to have independent and empowered life.

Blind People's Association (Ahmedabad, Gujarat) has been working tremendously and closely with VOSAP to empower and enable PwDs with Assistive devices, Surgical Interventions, Ration Kits during Covid times.

Sneh (Nagda, MP) and Association for the Physically Handicapped (Belgavi, Karnataka) have taken forward the mission of VOSAP to their locality and provided support to needy SAPs in rural India, promoted vaccination camps and provided ration kits to SAPs.

We are grateful to our Partners for providing constant support to VOSAP Mission for empowering Specially Abled People.

ENABLEMENT

VOSAP's goal is to empower Specially Abled People. Empowerment is possible by enabling them with Assistive devices that allow improved mobility, ability to hear, access and ease of learning, independence, self - employment with training etc. VOSAP also started enabling the visually impaired with surgical intervention whose disability can be reduced or cured.

Assistive technology tools and Surgical Interventions allows individuals to overcome their physical limitations and be able to have productive, independent, and dignified lives. It facilitates active participation in work and civic life.

In 2021, despite the restrictions imposed by COVID-19, our enablement program continued to impact the lives of 2,100 people. Now, with our technology expertise, we have launched an [online application](https://www.voiceofsap.org/applydevices/) to apply to receive Assistive Devices across India. This is further supported with the launch of our AT Exhibition platform which has provided 14 products to choose from in online application.

<https://www.voiceofsap.org/applydevices/>

1. SUPPORT WITH SURGICAL INTERVENTIONS

Several lifelong disabilities are caused by repairable impairments. For instance, cataracts cause blurred vision or fractures and similar deformities limit a person's mobility. In many countries, including India, lack of access to knowledge and most often, the lack of financial resources force thousands of people to live their whole lives with these impairments.



VOSAP is very proud of its strategic partner - Blind People's Association of India. Dr Bhushan Punani, Nandini Raval and the entire team have made it possible to empower the lives of over 2100 individuals with the 'Gift of Vision'. Despite the challenges caused by the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, BPA team was able to ensure that the beneficiaries, mainly from Gujarat were able to avail the benefits of our intervention with minimal cost and risk.

2. SUPPORT THROUGH ASSISTIVE DEVICES

Assistive technology (AT) and innovations have an incredible transformative power in lives of specially-abled people. Assistive devices enable Persons with Disabilities to get one step closer to an independent life of dignity. These devices allow them to overcome several limitations and reduce the everyday struggles faced by PWDs.

VOSAP has always recognised the vital role that AT plays in the lives of PWDs. Since our inception, we have focused on providing assistive devices to those who lack access, as well as improving research and advocating for policies.

In 2019-2020, VOSAP equipped over 700 individuals with assistive devices that have truly given wings to the dreams and aspirations of hundreds of specially-abled people.

Inspired by the incredible transformative power of assistive devices in the lives of PwDs, VOSAP was encouraged to innovate and build something that would impact the lives of thousands. The inception and efforts behind our AT Exhibition is a result of our continued work in improving lives through assistive technology and products.

3. STORIES OF CHANGE

We are happy to share with you some stories of our beneficiaries who have left a lasting impression on all our hearts. These individuals continue to inspire all of us at VOSAP with their determination and zest for life. It has been our privilege to play a small part in enabling them towards their aspirations and improving the quality of their lives.

SHANA KAUSHAR

IAS aspirant Shana Kaushar is one among five siblings born to an auto-driver and homemaker in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. She and two other siblings are visually impaired while a fourth has multiple disabilities.

Despite her multiple challenges, she has always been determined to do something meaningful. Her aspirations to become an IAS Officer are also rooted from this desire. When she received a smartphone device from VOSAP as part of our Enablement program, she was able to take a step closer to that dream.



“Most of my exam preparation is done through my phone. With the help of my device, I can learn from YouTube videos, access study materials and audio kits which are helpful for the competitive exams.” Shana shared excitedly.

Here’s wishing her all the luck for the journey ahead!

ANIL TUMDA



A Grade 10 student studying at Shivalimal Dang School, located in a tribal region of Dang District, Gujarat, Anil is a visually impaired young man with limitless curiosity.

As part of VOSAP’s enablement program, he received a state-of-the-art smartphone. Since that day, life has never been the same for Anil. “I use the talkback features to access the applications on the phone. I even use messaging applications to talk to family and friends. The easy-reader helps me with my academic lessons while I listen to educational videos and music on YouTube.”

We can’t wait to see the incredible things we will achieve with this simple device.

Asha was among 34 visually impaired young students from Lion’s Girls School, Vadodara who received a smartphone device as part of VOSAP’s Enablement Program. The daughter of a farming family, Asha would have never been able to continue her education during the pandemic.

But she was able to learn through Zoom calls, emails and even attempt her exams for the academic year, all through her smartphone device. The smartphone has also enabled her to do simple everyday activities like reading currency notes.

Now that schools have reopened, Asha has been using her smartphone to learn new skills. “I am learning multi-language typing now- mainly Hindi, Gujarati and English.” Asha shared with team VOSAP earlier this year.

She aspires to be a teacher and help visually challenged children leverage the power of technology.

ASHA RATHORE

VOICE OF SPECIALLY ABLED PEOPLE

**VOSAP
BENEFICIARY**

**ASHA RATHORE
ENABLED WITH SMARTPHONE**

Highschooler and
Daughter of a farmer,
Learning Newer skills



THAKOR BHAGWANJI

VOICE OF SPECIALLY ABLED PEOPLE

TRICYCLE BENEFICIARY

THAKOR BHAGWANJI UMEDJI
LOCATION: PALANPUR



Bhagwanji is from Palanpur district of Gujarat, India. He owns an electrical repair shop, fixing broken appliances like iron boxes, fans etc. He received a tricycle which helped improve his mobility which was limited due to birth deformities.

When asked how this device has impacted him, he said “I used to depend on people a lot before and it affected my work in many ways. It was difficult to always ask for help. But ever since receiving my tricycle from VOSAP, my life has changed a lot. I am self-dependent (Atma-Nirbar) now and I feel happy that I can do things on my own.”

It's amazing to see the uplifting stories of people like this. He encourages his fellow specially-abled community to strive to improve their own lives by getting out and working rather than waiting for someone to come and help them do it.

AARTI

Aartiben, a strong and empathetic person who is determined to prove her potential in life.

Young Aarti was born with a hearing impairment that always worried her parents. They were concerned about how their child would fit into the world and survive.

Aarti received a sewing machine as part of VOSAP's initiative to improve the lives of specially abled people through employment and enablement.



We visited Aarti and her family early this year, and her delighted father shared with us how he has new hope for her young daughter. “Aarti has been earning upto 100 rupees everyday through her hard work. The sewing machine provided by VOSAP has allowed her to become independent and also boosted her self-confidence. Today, she is a true inspiration for many young girls. All our neighbors and society members are supportive to her work and everyone approaches her to get the work done”

We feel extremely delighted that a small contribution has created such an inspiring path.

EMPLOYMENT

Society, at large, has many preconceived notions about Persons with Disabilities. These stereotypes have resulted in poor attitudes, ignorance, pity and even fear of Specially Abled People in mainstream society. People with Disabilities often become victims of inequality and injustice which denies them access to a respectful and dignified life. VOSAP has been continuously working towards bringing this forward through research and advocacy.

With the introduction of the Disability Inclusion Index (DII), a framework that quantifies and measures a company's inclusivity of PwD based on a 100-point system, we encourage corporations to understand the business benefits that relate to employing PwDs. DII helps companies devise their Disability and Inclusion (D&I) strategy in a comprehensive manner.

In 2021, VOSAP achieved another milestone for our Employment program with the launch of our Online Job Portal. While we focussed on strengthening our technology leadership in the disability sector for global impact, we also continued our efforts to improve the lives of PWDs with self-employment opportunities. VOSAP now has an online application form where individuals can apply to avail self-employment kits which include equipments like sewing machines, beauty parlor kits etc.

VOSAP JOB PORTAL AND PARTNERSHIPS

In a continued effort to improve inclusion of Persons with Disabilities at the workplace (especially in corporate companies), VOSAP launched an Online Job Portal. The portal focuses exclusively on finding suitable career options for Specially-abled People by consolidating job opportunities and partnering with other organizations to create job roles for PWD.

There is a growing D&I focus among leading companies across industries that are committing to building more diverse and inclusive workforce. These organizations can also partner with VOSAP's Online Job Portal and hire specially-abled people from thousands of engineering graduates with disabilities in India.

VOSAP is currently partnering with organizations like Sarthak Educational Trust and GTT who have committed to training and placement of specially-abled people.

If you know a specially-abled person looking for a job or an organization looking to hire a PwD, we encourage you to check out VOSAP's portal on our website and contact us. <https://www.voiceofsap.org/jobs/>

VOSAP YOUTH PROGRAMS

VOSAP has always focused on creating future leaders, engaging youth for better understanding of disability and helping them develop compassion for those who are 'different'. We believe if we can encourage our future generation to become 'changemakers' within their communities, we can create a more inclusive world by supporting their career goals which are inclusive of disability agenda.

1. LAUNCH OF VOSAP IGNITE PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Inspired by the successes of VRI 2020, VRI 2021, UC Berkeley and Nirma University programs, VOSAP expanded youth outreach to high school students. We launched the VOSAP Ignite program for high school students in the US.



The VOSAP Ignite program is 9 months long, structured volunteering that aims to encourage young students to learn about disability, network and volunteer and helps promote empathy and sensitivity in students towards Persons with Disabilities. Through the program, we hope to nurture the virtue of 'Individual Social Responsibility' at an early age, develop future leaders in technology, journalism, art, policy advocacy etc. <https://www.voiceofsap.org/ignite/>

Our first batch of 26 Ignite volunteers were selected from across the USA and Canada. The students went through 2 months of detailed and structured interview process to be part of the VOSAP Ignite 2021 team. The program is expected to be completed in a duration of 9 month during which students will carry out volunteering tasks with VOSAP, earn volunteering hours and potentially get qualified for PVSA - President's Volunteer Service Award that VOSAP can certify. <https://www.voiceofsap.org/pvsa/>

2. VOSAP RESEARCH INTERNSHIP 2021

This year, VRI 2021 focused on five research projects on disability which included Trends in Assistive Technologies, Federal and State Programs for Persons with Disabilities, Reasons for very poor Employment of Persons with Disabilities, Representation of PwD in Advertisements and Representation of Disability/PwD in CSR projects.

28 research interns were selected from 10 highly reputed US Universities. Under the guidance and mentorship of VOSAP college co-ordinators and VOSAP founder, these 5 research teams presented their

final research projects to a group of industry, policy leaders and dignitaries who are working towards inclusivity, accessibility, and advocacy of Persons with Disabilities.

You can explore the research studies in [detail here](#).



3. VOSAP CLUB AT UC BERKELEY

VOSAP Collegiate was launched with a mission of advocating inclusivity and accessibility for PwD on college campuses. To strengthen and expand the youth program, the 1st club of Voice of SAP was launched at UC Berkeley.

The VOSAP club is dedicated to increasing overall empowerment for Persons with Disabilities (PwD) through emphasizing VOSAP's volunteer opportunities, holding informative guest speaker presentations by PwD and by VOSAP club members becoming "Ally" of students with disabilities at UC Berkeley.

<https://www.voiceofsap.org/vosap-club/>

4. RESEARCH AT DATA SCIENCES DEPARTMENT, UC BERKELEY

VOSAP and UC Berkeley, Data Sciences Department started working in June 2020 to carry out research projects in disability. In the Spring Semester of 2021, a team of five students and one project manager began working on a project to find 'Non-Compliance to ADA' in relation to digital accessibility, physical accessibility and employment discrimination. The research looked at PACER data (Public Access to Court Electronic Data) on every lawsuit.

<https://www.voiceofsap.org/spring-2021/>

The findings suggest that while compliance is improving, large unemployment persists. The study also reveals that 10 lawsuits are filed everyday for digital accessibility. The students interviewed with lawyers and NGOs to analyze other trends and modeled it to forecast the cost for non-compliance.

Again in Fall 2021, another batch of students from the Data Sciences department, joined the VOSAP research program. They carried out research in "Inequalities of Income and Education among PwD by race, state and gender. Also compared it with Persons with disabilities. Their findings are eye opening and the detailed report is on VOSAP website under Youth Programs.

<https://www.voiceofsap.org/fall2021/>

5. COLLABORATION WITH NIRMA UNIVERSITY

VOSAP and Nirma University (Institute of Science) started working together in 2018. Dr. Sonal Bakshi of Nirma University has organized several sessions for team VOSAP to engage with the graduate students of the Institute of Science at the university. The collaboration has encouraged many students to sign up as volunteers over the years.

In January 2021, 89 students participated in our volunteering program and rated around 1,500 public places for accessibility. They also inspired 1,400 friends and family members to take the pledge to volunteer with VOSAP. We are proud of our ongoing relationship with Nirma University.

<https://www.voiceofsap.org/nirmauni/>

COVID-19 RELIEF EFFORTS

With the continued support of our generous donors like Shri B. U. Patel (Tarsadia Foundation) and passionate volunteers, our COVID-19 Relief efforts in 2021 have helped 3,000+ lives of Specially Abled People across India. The second wave of the pandemic saw the country in turmoil and VOSAP immediately responded by ensuring basic grocery and protection kits were distributed to SAP. We are grateful to our NGO partners like BPA, SNEH and APH for joining us in carrying out the relief efforts. Thanks to their support, our activities were conducted in cities across India which included Ahmedabad, Nagda (MP), Belgavi (Karnataka), Banaras (UP), Hyderabad (Telangana) and Haridwar (Uttarakhand) and Dahod(Gujarat) among others among others.

VOSAP engaged in encouraging vaccinations by collaborating with government vaccination camps and partner NGO. By providing free grocery kits at the camps, we aimed to help encourage more SAP to take their vaccination in some rural parts of India. We even participated in a 'drive-thru vaccination' which was intended to help ensure vaccines were accessible to everyone.

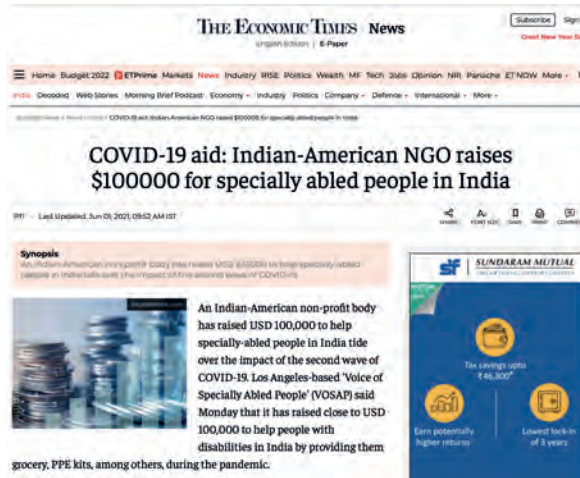
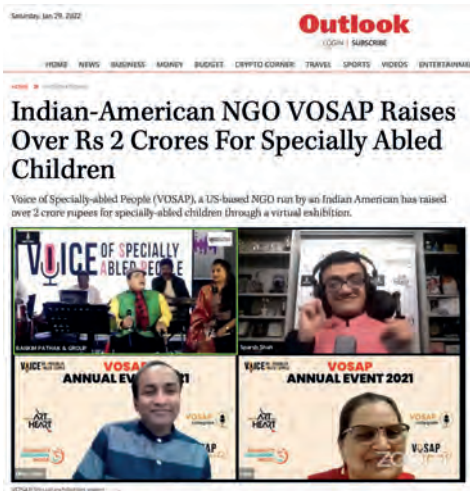
It has been truly encouraging to see the ongoing impact by compassionate volunteers who took personal risk during pandemic, went out every week, visiting door to door, and reaching out to help underprivileged Specially Abled People during the pandemic.



THE ASSOCIATION OF
PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED



VOSAP IN MEDIA



FINANCIALS

Voice of SAP has 3 programs (Enablement, Advocacy and Technology Platform/Digital tools), which are widely supported by our generous donors.

We are humbled to see a growing base of donors in 2021 while many strategic, existing donors continued or increased their support to the VOSAP mission, which resulted in a 50% increase in donations compared to 2020 and large sums of pledges for 2022. This indicates VOSAP mission is resonating with the donor community, meeting or exceeding their expectations.

VOSAP virtual Exhibition of Assistive Technology initiative inspired VOSAP patron Shri Manubhai and Rikaben Shah (MSI Charitable trust). They supported us as grand sponsors with \$250,000. Shri Bhikhubhai and Pushpaben Patel of Tarsadia Foundation and Shri Vasant and Prabha Rathi of AST Enzymes also continued as event sponsors. Additionally, during the annual event on Dec 4th, Shri Manubhai offered \$ to \$ matching for donations raised by Dec 15 upto \$250,000. VOSAP impact is expected to grow significantly with the immediate goal for 2022 to change 5,000+ lives of Specially Abled People FOREVER.

In the last 5 years, we have learnt a lot, established efficient processes with online technology, great delivery partner NGOs and a compassionate team of volunteers, which has inspired us to THINK BIG, BE BOLD! Our next goal is to reach 10 M+ people with advocacy and change lives FOREVER of 100,000 Specially Abled People in the next 3 to 5 years with your continued generous support.

January - December 2021 (Estimated)

	Advocacy			Enablement			General			Technology			TOTAL		
	2021	2020	Change	2021	2020	Change	2021	2020	Change	2021	2020	Change	2021	2020	Change
Donations															
Foundation Grants	\$ 15,000	\$ 197,108	-\$ 182,108	\$ 19,093	\$ 14,502	\$ 4,591	\$ 29,549	\$ 500	\$ 29,049	\$ 80,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 143,642	\$ 262,110	-\$ 118,468
Corporate, Individuals	\$ 25,000	\$ 20,898	\$ 4,102	\$ 277,123	\$ 79,431	\$ 197,693	\$ 35,646	\$ 32,280	\$ 3,366	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,008	-\$ 8	\$ 338,769	\$ 133,617	\$ 205,152
Indirect Public Support	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 67,844	\$ 0	\$ 67,844	\$ 29,982	\$ 0	\$ 29,982	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 97,826	\$ 0	\$ 97,826
Investments/Other Income	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 342	\$ 86	\$ 256	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 342	\$ 86	\$ 256
Total Donations	\$ 40,000	\$218,006	-\$ 178,006	\$ 363,860	\$ 93,933	\$ 269,928	\$ 95,518	\$ 32,866	\$ 62,652	\$ 81,000	\$ 51,008	\$29,992	\$ 580,379	\$ 395,813	\$ 184,566
Expenditures															
Program Grants	\$ 2,727	\$ 0	\$ 2,727	\$ 120,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 142,727	\$ 50,000	\$ 92,727
Other Expenses (incl Tech, ops)	\$ 24,393	\$ 9,644	\$ 14,748	\$ 1,451	\$ 901	\$ 550	\$ 7,427	\$ 2,114	\$ 5,313	\$ 29,256	\$ 17,896	\$ 11,560	\$ 62,527	\$ 31,671	\$ 30,856
Total Expenditures	\$ 27,120	\$ 9,644	\$ 17,475	\$ 121,451	\$ 30,901	\$ 90,550	\$ 27,428	\$ 22,114	\$ 5,314	\$ 29,256	\$ 17,896	\$ 11,560	\$ 205,254	\$ 81,671	\$ 123,570
Net Balance	\$ 12,880	\$198,361	-\$ 185,481	\$ 242,409	\$ 73,031	\$ 169,378	\$ 68,090	\$ 10,752	\$ 57,338	\$ 51,744	\$ 33,312	\$18,432	\$ 375,112	\$ 314,116	\$ 60,996
Total Assets end of the year													\$ 936,779	\$ 559,118	\$ 377,661

We are thankful to our Sponsors and Supporters for making this a success



Event Sponsor



Grand Sponsor



Event Sponsor

DONORS

Voice of SAP has inspired hundreds of people to support the cause of Empowering Specially Abled People. Their donations have enabled thousands of people and strengthen VOSAP mission. On behalf of them, we thank every donor. The list below is only a representative list of donors who have donated more than \$1,000

PATRON'S CIRCLE

Sarva Mangal Family Trust (Shri Manubhai and Rika Shah) | Tarsadia Foundation (Shri Bhikhubhai and Pushpaben Patel)

PROMOTOERS

Global Giving | Benevity Fund | Vasant and Prabha Rathi Foundation | Manoj & Tejal Mehta | Ramesh Shah | Dr Ila and Vinod Shah | Yogesh M Patel | Rita and Rohit Doshi | Raj Rana | Agarwal Family Foundation (Avadhesh and Uma Agarwal) | ADP Foundation | Pranav and Usha Desai | Canyon Plastics (Kirit and Neelam Gajera) | Bright Funds | Mahesh Wadher | The Uka Solanki Foundation | Sohil Maru

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प्रधान मंत्री
Prime Minister



MESSAGE

I am pleased to learn about the first 3D virtual exhibition of Assistive Technology Solutions by 'Voice of Specially Abled People' (VOSAP).

This initiative of VOSAP to exhibit technology-based assistive solutions for divyangjan is commendable. Our divyang brothers and sisters are second to none in any field and are torchbearers of unwavering dedication and unmatched determination. Their courage and achievements in various sectors inspire everyone.

Our Government has been working resolutely towards ensuring opportunities for our divyangjan. Be it improving accessibility for them under Sugamya Bharat campaign, or providing them assistive devices through thousands of Samajik Adhikarita Shivir, emphasising on enabling mechanism for a barrier-free education, or creating new possibilities for inclusive growth, we remain committed to keep working towards an equitable future for all.

'Sabka Prayas' and technology are pivotal to bring a positive change in the lives of our divyang sisters and brothers. The efforts of various stakeholders and institutions such as VOSAP are deeply valued.

The 3D virtual exhibition brings together innovators, start ups, exhibitors, volunteers, government representatives and divyangjan on a common platform. Adopting latest technological solutions will help make the world disability-inclusive and sustainable.

May the first 3D virtual exhibition on assistive technology products be a huge success.

(Narendra Modi)

New Delhi

अग्रहायण 12, शक संवत् 1943

03rd December, 2021

Shri Pranav Desai

Founder, www.voiceofasap.org



An organization in special consultative status with United Nations, Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC)



2022 GOALS



- 🎯 Change lives forever of **5,000+** Persons with Disabilities
- 🎯 Grow registered volunteer base to **12,000+** volunteers
- 🎯 Rate **50,000+** places for accessibility using VOSAP Mobile App
- 🎯 Promote **500+** corporate jobs for Persons with Disabilities of VOSAP jobs portal
- 🎯 Offer VOSAP **Digital tools** for virtual volunteering for employees of partner corporations
- 🎯 Expand VOSAP presence to **15 locations** across India, by adding partner NGO
- 🎯 Expand VOSAP **Youth volunteering** programs, include paralympians
- 🎯 Welcome **15,000+** visitors to the Assistive Technology Exhibition platform
- 🎯 Launch subsidy programs with selected **AT exhibitors** to improve affordability



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