



University Inclusion & Accessibility Committee
Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University
(A State University established by the Government of NCT of Delhi)
Sector 16-C, Dwarka, New Delhi 110 078

Report on “World Braille Day-4th Jan 2023” Event under G-20 Activities

The University Inclusion and Accessibility Committee (UIAC) of Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIPU), established by Govt. of NCT of Delhi (India) on the occasion of World Braille Day organized the grand opening ceremony of UIAC UTTHAAN Calendar, as well as, celebrated birth of Louis Braille, the man who changed the lives of millions visually impaired. Louis Braille a French Educator invented a tactile system of reading and writing for the blind and visually impaired in 1824. The system is called braille and it consists of raised dot codes that are used worldwide to read and write.

Braille’s gift to the world has brightened the lives of millions of people around the world who are blind or visually impaired, and they benefit from his work every day. The day also acknowledges that those with visual impairments deserve the same standard of human rights as everyone else.

The poster features logos for Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, G20 India 2023, GGSIPU 25th Anniversary, and UIAC. The main text reads: **GGSIU SILVER JUBILEE YEAR SPECIAL**, **University Inclusion & Accessibility Committee**, **Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, New Delhi** celebrates **World Braille Day** on **4th Jan 2023**. It lists **Patron Prof.(Dr) Mahesh Verma** (Padma Shri Awardee, Vice Chancellor, GGSIPU) and **Program Director Prof. (Dr) Shalini Garg** (Chairperson, UIAC, University Nodal Officer, Disability Matters).

The celebration was scheduled on 4th January 2023 in the University Campus.

The activities lined up in the event include:

- a) Launch of UIAC-UTTHAAN Calendar 2023 comprising the Year Long list of Activities & Events to be conducted by UIAC-UTTHAAN.
- b) An Insightful and Enriching Session on Louis Braille biography followed by an activity with blindfold conducted by Ms. Sangeeta Joshi & Mr. Sunil (NAB, Delhi).
- c) Last but not the least The Delhi Based NGOs working for the Persons with Disabilities displayed the products majorly made by Persons with Disabilities outside the Seminar Hall C.



The event began with a lamp lighting ceremony followed by Ribbon Cutting in the presence of the esteemed dignitaries named Shree Manoj Kumar- OSD to Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Shree Sunil Sobti -OSD to Controller of Finance, Ms. Sangeeta Joshi and Mr. Sunil from National Association for Blind.



Prof (Dr) Shalini Garg the Chairperson of University Inclusion & Accessibility Committee (UIAC-UTTHAAN) and University Nodal Officer (pertaining to the Disability Matters) and the Program Director of World Braille's Day introduced the event.

Her address included the deliberations on Louis Braille's Contribution while quoting realities studied in the report of the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB), which states that around 12 million people in India are visually impaired. Of the total, only 29.6% are

a part of the education system. In India, just 6.86% schools have access to Braille books and audio content, highlighting the significant gulf between those who need support and those who have access to it.

Prof (Dr) Shalini Garg brought to the attention about the achievements of UIAC-UTTHAAN in the year 2022, which included observing five-day Disability Awareness Week, International Day for Persons with Disabilities, and launching the I&A E Magazine Vol 6.

She ended her address by acknowledging the immense support & guidance of the Competent Authority Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof (Dr) Mahesh Verma who is also the Patron of this event and thanked the UIAC members, Nodal Officers (I&A Measures), organising team of students and the In-house community that were a part of this event.



The dignitaries of the event, Shree Manoj Kumar and Shree Sunil Sobti orated on the significance of the day along with virtuous wishes for commencement of new calendar.



The event further resumed with the presence of the speakers, Ms. Sangeeta Joshi and Mr. Sunil from National Association for Blind. Since 1997, The National Association has been a pioneer in initiating services for the children with visual impairment. The occasion was followed by certainly engaging sessions, As the initial speaker for the day, Ms. Sangeeta Joshi helped the audience with the very essence of Braille's Day, and deliberated about the importance of Braille Script for the visually impaired and introduced leisure indoor board games, like Ludo and Snake & Ladder, especially designed for the visually impaired. Besides, an Indian territorial map was depicted as well.





After touching the thinnest thread of the topic, another delegate from NAB, Mr. Sunil elucidated on the perspective, Inclusive Education followed by the use of Technology. Even the audience was welcomed to volunteer for a practical display of the technological devices built for the visually impaired. Towards the end, this presentation was followed by a terrifically joyous, Blind Fold activity for the university students, and a stall display of handmade materials presented by the NGOs working for Persons with Disabilities.





This day rather marks awareness about the visually impaired and ignites the sense of empathy. There is a wonder in reading in Braille that the sighted will never know: to touch words and have them touch you back. Absolutely, Mr. Braille created the code of raised dots and writing that bears his name and brings literacy, independence, and productivity to the blind.



