

(You and the Disabled)

UDIS Forum

Use their Skills Y Light their Lives

Annual Report 2010



EMPOWERMENT

With support from



Introduction

Dear Readers,

The UDIS Forum is proud to present yet another action packed Annual Report. When we named the 2009 report as Expansion, we were just beginning to expand the proven concept of UDIS Forum. In any expansion, there are challenges as well as rewards. The reward to the Forum in 2010 is that we could create and also strengthen many disabled people's organizations. The challenge was that we had to provide a lot of backup training and management skills to these organizations to transform their mandate from advocacy to activity. Though the challenges were huge, the rewards were satisfying and therefore we went on. Realizing the efficacy of the UDIS Forum concept, CBM which has been providing rock solid support to the Forum activities encouraged us to expand the network to 5 more regions in the State and it is a reality now. The 5 new networks are operating in Hosur, Tirunelveli, Tirupur, The Nilgiris and Trichy. Sightsavers came forward to support the formation of 5 networks which are operational in Erode, Namakkal, Ramanathapuram, Thiruvallur and Madurai. We have jointly evolved that the network partners should focus on employment generation activities, advocacy and youth development work. The partners are working with great zeal and we hope to use them as "change agents" to encourage formation of more DPO and parent organisations in the years to come.



In the subsequent pages of the Annual Report you will find the wide range of activities carried out by the dedicated team of the Forum. I would like to highlight some of these activities as they are really sources of inspiration for the expansion of the work of UDIS Forum.

The Annual employees meet which is attended by the employed people with disabilities is a forum to introspect the pluses and minuses and the experiences shared by people with disabilities are used as messages to improve our work. It is gratifying that more and more private employers are coming forward to employ persons with disabilities as they are satisfied with the performance of those who have been provided employment in their industries through the involvement of the UDIS Forum. The Marga Schulze Scholarship Scheme which is empowering girls with visual impairment is steered by the Forum and in 2010 we were privileged to assist 120 students with visual impairment to pursue higher studies. The youth involvement in the Forum activities is growing year after year. A special mention must be made about the mega orientation programme on disability management jointly organized by the Forum and the Bharathiar University which was attended by 552 Master of Social Work students from Coimbatore region and with expanded network partners we shall continue to involve more and more youth in the future. Working with parents and disabled people's organization is our prime objective and you will see the multifarious activities organized by the Forum in this regard in various sections of this report. However, one activity requires special attention. The UDIS Forum launched a disability helpline in 2010 which is bridging persons with disabilities and the external world. This helpline offers information on schemes, job opportunities and also provides the required counseling. CALIBER, Coimbatore which is one of the partner organizations has been entrusted with the responsibility of managing this helpline and to date more than 1300 calls have been entertained and most of them assisted accordingly. One more activity that was unique during 2010 was the Greenability Trekking which was participated by over 100 students with disability. The programme which was inaugurated by Dr. P. Umanath, the District Collector, Coimbatore was enjoyed by the participants who were taken to Sálím Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, Anaikatty and oriented on the positive effects of nature on human life. Many such field activities will be carried out in the years to come.

In summary, the 2010 has been marked by expansion of UDIS Forum activities into various regions and we are witnessing the empowerment of persons with disabilities in various dimensions which has motivated us to name this report as "Empowerment".

With regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M.N.G. Mani', with a small flourish at the end.

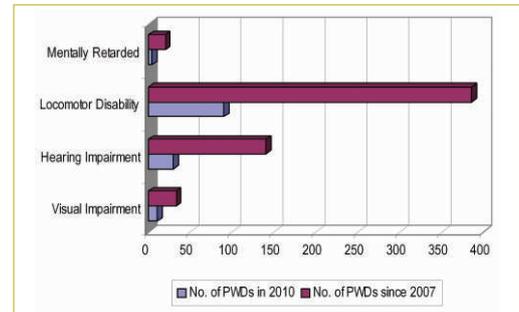
Dr. M.N.G. Mani

Founder-President, UDIS Forum and Secretary General, International Council for Education of People with Visual Impairment (ICEVI)

Employment Guidance Programme

The Employment Guidance Programme aims at assisting persons with disabilities in finding employment by identifying jobs in the private sector and also by providing guidance for self employment. Through EGP, a total of 579 PWDs have procured employment since the year 2007. In 2010, a total of 134 persons were assisted in finding employment of whom 45 persons procured employment through an Employment Fair conducted at Hosur jointly with New Life Service Centre, Hosur.

S.No.	Type of Disability	No. of PWDs (2010)	No. of PWDs since 2007
1	Visual Impairment	10	33
2	Hearing Impairment	30	140
3	Locomotor Disability	90	386
4	Mentally Retarded	4	20
Total		134	579



Orientation Programme on “Employment Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities in Private Sector”

- A counseling programme regarding employment opportunities in the private sector for persons with disabilities was organized in coordination with the District Employment Office, Coimbatore on 4 and 5 March.
- A total of 164 persons with disabilities and 120 parents of the PWDs participated in the two days programme.
- This programme was organized on the basis of experiences gained in the private sector placement services for PWDs in Coimbatore district, where it has been identified that employment opportunities are available for those who have the qualifications from 8th standard to Higher Secondary Education.
- The company representatives and HR personnel from various companies provided information to the PWDs about the availability of jobs, salary structure and other facilities provided by the companies.
- The PWDs who were interested to work in private sector attended interview which was conducted by some of the companies during the programme and around 15 of them were provided with employment.



UDIS Placed Employees' Meet – 2010

- A meeting of those who are facilitated with employment by UDIS Forum is conducted every year. It is a platform for the PWDs to share the experiences of their employment and also their challenges. For the year 2010, the meeting was conducted on 28 March at BMN Kalyana Mandapam, Coimbatore.
- A total of 285 persons including 147 employees, 15 trainees, 56 parents, 5 employers' representatives and others attended the programme.
- Mr. L. Sivasamy, Assistant Director, District Employment Office, Coimbatore explained the special schemes for PWDs announced by the Government and the Chief Guest Mr. M. Krishnan, Chairman and Managing Director, Sri Krishna Sweets announced more number of employment opportunities for PWDs in his group of concerns.



Awareness programme on “Loan schemes available in Government departments for self employment of persons with disabilities”

- UDIS Forum in association with the District Differently Abled Welfare Office and Avinashilingam Jan Shikshan Sansthan organised an awareness programme on “Loan schemes available in government departments for self employment for differently abled persons” on 30 April at Avinashilingam Jan Shikshan Sansthan, Coimbatore.
- A total of 107 persons including PWDs, parents, MSW volunteers and public attended the programme. Government officials from District Differently Abled Welfare Office, Central Co-operative Bank, Tamil Nadu Khadi and Village Industries Board and Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing and Development Corporation, Coimbatore represented the meeting as resource persons and delivered special addresses on self employment promotion to PWDs.
- The government officials gave an insight on the loan schemes available exclusively for persons with disabilities.



Employers' Meet

- An Employers' Meet was organized at the District Employment Office on 9 July. It was conducted to orient the employers on the network concept of the UDIS Forum and mainly the placement services offered to persons with disabilities in the private sector.
- Mrs. Latha, Regional Deputy Director (Employment) pointed out that Employees State Insurance & Provident Fund benefits have to be provided to the employees.
- A total of 24 employers attended the programme.

Private Employment Campaign

- As a result of facilitating employment opportunities for persons with disabilities, two companies M/s. Sri Kumaran Thangamaligai Pvt. Ltd, Coimbatore and M/s. SCM Garments Pvt. Ltd, Coimbatore referred by the District Employment Office, Coimbatore came forward to provide suitable employment to PWDs to work in their companies.
- A total of 124 persons with locomotor disabilities and hearing impairment were invited for this campaign held at the UDIS Forum premises on 15 September and 16 PWDs were selected in the interview conducted by the companies.



Employed candidates speak...



As my right leg is dysfunctional I found it difficult to find a job. I approached UDIS Forum to assist me with employment. I got a job in Indoshell company, SIDCO Industrial Estate, Sundarapuram. I am very grateful for this opportunity and I thank all the people working in UDIS Forum for their assistance and support.

S. Shanmugam

Idayarpalayam, Coimbatore



Being a person with hearing impairment, I found it difficult to find a job. But immediately after I registered with the UDIS Forum, they placed me in KG Apparels with a good salary. I will always be grateful to them for having found me a good job.

Jayaprakash

Belukurichi, Namakkal



I express my gratitude to the UDIS Forum for having assisted me in finding a job. I am a hearing impaired person. The UDIS Forum placed me in Ganga Hospital for a salary of Rs. 4500. I thank everyone working here for their help and support.

R. Savitha

Zamin Uthukuli, Pollachi



I lost my hearing and speaking skills at a very young age. So after my 10th standard, I completed Mechanist course in ITI. I came to know about the UDIS Forum through the District Employment Exchange. Immediately, I registered with them. I got a job in Krishna Sweets for a monthly salary of Rs. 3250. I thank UDIS Forum for having assisted me with employment.

S. Sivakumar

Madukarai, Coimbatore

The EMPOWERED Project at Coimbatore and Computer Training Centre at Grama Udhayam, Thirunelveli also functioned under Training and Employment Network with Non-Governmental Organisations (TENNGO) scheme during the year 2010.

Marga Schulze Scholarship Scheme



The UDIS Forum, under the Marga Schulze Scholarship Scheme has been providing scholarship to girls with visual impairment to assist them in pursuing higher education since the year 2007. So far, 267 girls have been given the scholarship. The beneficiaries are selected through an interview process based on academic performance and plus curriculum skills. The certificate evaluation and interview to select the students for the scholarship for the year 2010-11 was conducted in Government College of Education for Women, Coimbatore on 3 October. The interview mainly concentrated on four aspects, Braille Reading & Writing skills, Orientation & Mobility, Communication Skills and Certificate Evaluation. A total of 119 girls with visual impairment (including the renewal candidates) from the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu were awarded scholarships during the academic year as per the following details:-

S. No.	Name of the Student	Course	Institution	State
1	Sakthi Sri, S	I B.A. (English)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
2	Monica, R	I B.A. (Tamil)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
3	Kavitha, M	I B.A. (Tamil)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
4	Sneha, N	II B.A. (English)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
5	Vani, M	II B.A. (English)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
6	Fathima Sajidha, R	II B.A. (English)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
7	Nivethitha, T	II B.A. (English)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
8	Stella Mary, S	II B.A. (Music)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
9	Mahalakshmi, V	II B.A. (Tamil)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
10	Hemavathi, S	II B.A. (Tamil)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
11	Jeyalakshmi, S	II B.A. (Tamil)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
12	Subhashakthi, M	III B.A. (English)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
13	Dhanalakshmi, R	III B.A. (English)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
14	Akilandeswari, M	III B.A. (English)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
15	Suthamani, M	III B.A. (Tamil)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
16	Bavani, P	III B.A. (Tamil)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
17	Jothimani, J	II M.A. (Tamil)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
18	Ponmari, A.K	II M.A. (Tamil)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
19	Thamarai Selvi, B	II M.A. (Tamil)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
20	Sutha, L	II M.A. (Tamil)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
21	Maheswari, K	II M.A. (English)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
22	Uma Maheswari, S	B.Ed.	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
23	Suganya, R	I B.A. (English)	Nirmala College for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
24	Nalayiram, R	B.Ed.	Govt. College of Education for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
25	Ajantha, V	B.Ed.	Govt. College of Education for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
26	Kardina Mary, X	B.Ed.	Govt. College of Education for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
27	Jeeva Mani, C	B.Ed.	Govt. College of Education for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu

S. No.	Name of the Student	Course	Institution	State
28	Sathya, N	B.Ed.	Govt. College of Education for Women, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
29	Mariammal, M	I B.A. (English)	Quaid - E - Millat Govt. College for Women, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
30	Suganya, P	II B.A. (English)	Quaid - E - Millat Govt. College for Women, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
31	Poongodi, R	II B.A. (English)	Quaid - E - Millat Govt. College for Women, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
32	Rebekka, M	II B.A. (English)	Quaid - E - Millat Govt. College for Women, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
33	Shyamala, K	II B.A. (English)	Quaid - E - Millat Govt. College for Women, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
34	Kannaki, R	II B.A. (English)	Quaid - E - Millat Govt. College for Women, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
35	Kalaiarasi, R	II B.A. (Tamil)	Quaid - E - Millat Govt. College for Women, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
36	Uma Maheswari, S	III B.A. (History)	Quaid - E - Millat Govt. College for Women, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
37	Lakshmi Priya, K	I B.A. (English)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
38	Renuka, S	I B.A. (English)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
39	Anbarasi, S	I B.A. (English)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
40	Sathiya, S	I B.A. (History)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
41	Amala, G	I B.A. (History)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
42	Gunasundhari, S	I B.A. (History)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
43	Bhavani, A	II B.A. (History)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
44	Sumathi, P	II B.A. (History)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
45	Bhuvaneswari, M	III B.A. (Tamil)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
46	Rani, B	III B.A. (Tamil)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
47	Parasakthi, P	III B.A. (Tamil)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
48	Mohana Priya, M	I M.A. (History)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
49	Bhavani, K	I M.A. (English)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
50	Manjula, M	I M.A. (English)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
51	Thamarai, K	I M.A. (Tamil)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
52	Sudha, M	I M.A. (Tamil)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
53	Sangeetha, V	I M.A. (Tamil)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
54	Chinnaponnu, R	I M.A. (Tamil)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
55	Dhanam, R	II M.A. (Tamil)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
56	Chitra, K	II M.A. (Tamil)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
57	Vasantha, V	II M.A. (Tamil)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
58	Leelavathi, L	II M.A. (Tamil)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
59	Sangeetha, S	II M.A. (Tamil)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
60	Veeralakshmi, R	II M.A. (Tamil)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
61	Mariammal, R	II M.A. (Tamil)	Queen Mary's College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
62	SivaSenthamil Selvi, S	I B.A. (Tamil)	Presidency College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
63	Murugammal, N	I B.A. (Tamil)	Presidency College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
64	Kiruba, B	I B.A. (Tamil)	Presidency College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
65	Priya, S	I B.A. (Tamil)	Presidency College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
66	Pownu, M	I B.A. (History)	Presidency College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
67	Anitha, K	II B.A. (English)	Presidency College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
68	Nathiya, N	II B.A. (Tamil)	Presidency College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
69	Kalaiyarasi, S	II B.A. (Tamil)	Presidency College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
70	Thenmozhi, E	III B.A. (Pol. Sc.)	Presidency College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
71	Vidhya, P	III B.A. (Tamil)	Presidency College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
72	Nergees Begum, V.A	I B.A. (English)	Ethiraj College for Women, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
73	Beno Zephine, N.L	III B.A. (English)	Stella Maris College, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
74	Kalaiyarasi, P	I M.A. (Tamil)	University of Madras, Chennai	Tamil Nadu

S. No.	Name of the Student	Course	Institution	State
75	Valarmathi, S	B.Ed.	Lady Willington Institute of Adv. Study in Edn., Chennai	Tamil Nadu
76	Parveen Sha, M	B.Ed.	Lady Willington Institute of Adv. Study in Edn., Chennai	Tamil Nadu
77	Meena, V	B.Ed.	Lady Willington Institute of Adv. Study in Edn., Chennai	Tamil Nadu
78	Kavitha, S	B.Ed. (English)	Lady Willington Institute of Adv. Study in Edn., Chennai	Tamil Nadu
79	Kavitha, S	B.Ed. (Tamil)	Lady Willington Institute of Adv. Study in Edn., Chennai	Tamil Nadu
80	Usha, R	B.Ed.	N.K.T National College of Education for Women, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
81	Chitra, P	B.Ed.	N.K.T National College of Education for Women, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
82	Thilaga, S	B.Ed.	N.K.T National College of Education for Women, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
83	Kaliyammal, M	B.Ed.	N.K.T National College of Education for Women, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
84	Mahalakshmi, G	B.Ed.	Mohammed Sathak Teacher Training College, Padur	Tamil Nadu
85	Govindammal, D	B.Ed.	Government College of Education, Vellore	Tamil Nadu
86	Anthony Selvi, B	B.Ed.	Government College of Education, Vellore	Tamil Nadu
87	Vijayalakshmi, P	II B.A. (English)	N.M.S.S.V.N. College, Madurai	Tamil Nadu
88	Lakshmi, M	I M.A. (History)	Sri Meenakshi Govt. College for Women, Madurai	Tamil Nadu
89	Saraswathi, P	B.Ed.	Kapi Women's College of Education, Madurai	Tamil Nadu
90	Pachaiammal, V	B.Ed.	Raj College of Education, Madurai	Tamil Nadu
91	Thenmozhi, M	B.Ed.	Government College of Education, Orathanadu	Tamil Nadu
92	Poongothai, M	B.Ed.	Government College of Education, Orathanadu	Tamil Nadu
93	Mariammal, T	II B.A. (English)	Kunthavai Naachiyar Govt. Arts College for Women, Tanjore	Tamil Nadu
94	Pon Malar, R	B.Ed.	Muslim College of Education, Thiruvithancode	Tamil Nadu
95	Nithya, R	B.Ed.	Sri Sundareswari College of Education, Srivilliputhur (Tk)	Tamil Nadu
96	Mariya Selvam, M	B.Ed.	Mariamman College of Education, Trichy	Tamil Nadu
97	Sentamil Selvi, A	II M.A. (History)	Kandhasami Naidu Women's College, Cuddalore	Tamil Nadu
98	Sivasankari, E	III B.A. (Tamil)	Govt. Arts College, Dharmapuri	Tamil Nadu
99	Divya, R	III B.A. (English)	Sri Saradha College for Women, Salem	Tamil Nadu
100	Pendyala Swapna	I B.A. (MLHP)	University College for Women, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
101	Edigolla Swaroopaa	I B.A. (MLHP)	University College for Women, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
102	Killi Manjulakumari	I B.A. (MLHP)	University College for Women, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
103	Jillala Jyothi	I B.A. (MLHP)	University College for Women, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
104	Pingili Sandhya Rani	I B.A. (Telugu)	Vivekananda Govt. Degree College, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
105	Kommididi Lavanya	I B.A. (Telugu)	Vivekananda Govt. Degree College, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
106	Sudheshna, P	I B.A. (Telugu)	Govt. Degree College, Hayathnagar	Andhra Pradesh
107	Peddina Kameswari	II B.A. (Telugu)	O.U. College for Women, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
108	Bhagya Laxmi, P	III B.A. (HPP)	Vivekananda Govt. Degree College, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
109	Saritha, M	III B.A. (HTP)	Nizam College, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
110	Malleshwari, P	I M.A. (Telugu)	University College for Women, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
111	Monisha Shau	I PUC	Jyothi Composite PU College, Bangalore	Karnataka
112	Summaiya Khan, A	II PUC	Mount Caramel Pre University College, Bangalore	Karnataka
113	Mahalakshmi, M	II PUC	Jyothi Composite PU College, Bangalore	Karnataka
114	Sunitha Dutto	II PUC	Jyothi Composite PU College, Bangalore	Karnataka
115	Mary Agnes	II PUC	Jyothi Composite PU College, Bangalore	Karnataka
116	Latha, P. M	II PUC	St. Anne's Pre University College for Girls. Bangalore	Karnataka
117	Eleeza Souza	II B.A. (HENGs)	Jyothi Nivas College (Autonomous), Bangalore	Karnataka
118	Pallavi, S.J	III B.A. (HEE)	DVS College of Arts & Science, Shimoga	Karnataka
119	Sheeba Bai, A	III BBM	St. Philomena's College, Mysore	Karnataka

Faith is the strength by which a shattered world shall emerge into the light.

- Helen Keller

Laptop Distribution Function

- A computer skills evaluation test for the recipients of the Marga-Schulze Scholarship Scheme is conducted and the deserving candidates are provided with a free laptop every year. So far, 19 students have received laptops.
- For the year 2009-10 the distribution of laptop to the candidates was held on 4 May at the UDIS Forum Administrative Office, Coimbatore. Seven students were selected after the computer evaluation test.
- The Regional Director of CBM South Asia Regional Office (South), Mrs. Gunawathy Fernandez was the chief guest for the day and presented the laptops to the candidates.



The following students were the recipients of laptops on that occasion:

S.No.	Name	Course	Name of the Institution
1	Latha, P.M	I PUC	St. Anne's Pre University College for Girls, Bangalore
2	Sunitha Dutto	I PUC	Jyothi Composite PU College, Bangalore
3	Eleeza Souza	I B.A. (HENGs)	Jyothi Nivas College, Bangalore
4	Sneha, N	I B.A. (English)	Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore
5	Beno Zephine, N.L	II B.A. (English)	Stella Maris College, Chennai
6	Pallavi, S.J	II B.A. (HEE)	DVS College of Arts and Science, Shimoga
7	Sheeba Bai, A	II BBM	St. Philomena's College, Mysore

Students speak...

Lakshmi, M. I M.A. (History)
Sri Meenakshi Government
College for Women, Madurai.



I am pursuing my MA in History. My father is a farmer, but he is unable to work due to his ill health. My mother

is supporting our family by working in a mill. As we come from a poor background, this scholarship has been very helpful for me to pursue my studies. I use the money for paying my fees and for buying books and cassettes. I am very thankful to UDIS Forum for having provided me with the scholarship. I will work hard and do my best in my studies.

Summaiya Khan, A. II PUC
Mount Carmel Pre University College,
Bangalore.



"Education is the key to open the golden doors of freedom" - George Washington Cavour. It gives me a sense of pride and honour in confessing that UDIS Forum has been an industrious organisation which has come up with the initiative to work for the visually challenged girls in specific. It is a remarkable enterprise which has recognized the potentials that were stashed within us. The scholarship has always boosted our confidence by giving us a sense of self reliance and has reduced the financial burden of our families in some way. The money given to us in the form of scholarships has always been prudently utilised for our scholastic purposes. The coordinators and the members of this Forum have been very kind and have always been very prompt in updating us about the scholarship events. I express my sincere gratitude to the UDIS Forum.

Sakthi Sri, S. I B.A. (English)
Avinashilingam University for
Women, Coimbatore.

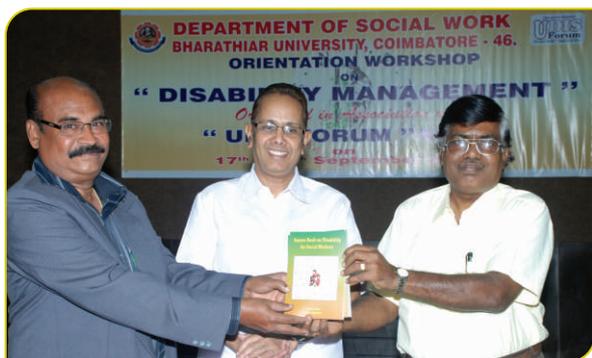


I am pursuing my first year in BA. I come from a very poor background. My father is a weaver and works very hard to support all of us. But he finds it difficult to support my education. With this scholarship, I pay my college fees and buy all my books. I am very grateful to UDIS Forum for helping students like us for pursuing their higher studies. I am very motivated to achieve a lot in my life. I want to become a teacher and I am working hard to achieve my goals. I thank the UDIS Forum for helping me realize my dream.

Youth Wing for Disability Services

Orientation Workshop on Disability Management for Social Work Students

The Department of Social Work, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore and the UDIS Forum, jointly organized an “Orientation Workshop for Social Work Students on Disability Management” for two days on 17 and 18 September. A total of 527 Social Work students and 25 faculty members from 16 Colleges in and around Coimbatore participated in the workshop.



In the inaugural function, a “Source Book on Disability for Social Workers” authored by Dr. M.N.G. Mani and Mr. M.B. Jaiganesh was released. It was released by Mr. E Shanmugasundaram, former Joint Director, Commissionerate of Disability Services, Govt. of Tamil Nadu and the first copy was received by Dr. Sethurama Subbiah, Head, Department of Social Work, Bharathiar University.

The details of participation are given below :

S.No.	Name of the Institution	Number of Participants
1	AJK College of Arts and Science	24
2	Amrita University	14
3	Avinashilingam University for Women	25
4	Bharathiar University	103
5	CMS College of Science and Commerce	12
6	CSI Bishop Appasamy College of Arts and Science	52
7	GRD College of Science	11
8	Hindustan College of Arts and Science	45
9	Nehru Arts and Science College	29
10	NGM College	25
11	PSG College of Arts and Science	27
12	RVS College of Arts and Science	23
13	Sree Saraswathi Thyagaraja College	56
14	Sri Krishna Arts and Science College	39
15	Sri Narayana Guru College of Arts and Science	33
16	Sri Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya College of Arts and Science	9
17	Social Work Faculties	25
TOTAL		552

YWDIS Office Bearers Installation Function

The inauguration of YWDIS activities for the year 2010-11 and the swearing in ceremony of new office bearers of YWDIS was held at CSI Bishop Appasamy College of Arts and Science on 6 October. Mrs. Mrinalini R. David, Principal of the College administered the oath for the following newly elected office bearers and executive members:



Office Bearers

Position	Name	Institute
President	P. Arun	CSI Bishop Appasamy College of Arts and Science
Vice Presidents	C. Kayalvizhi	Avinashilingam University for Women
	S. Saravanan	Sri Krishna Arts and Science College
	T.M. Mirshad Rahman	Amrita University
	F. Jinu Francis	Sri Narayana Guru College of Arts and Science
	V. Gayathri	RVS College of Arts and Science
	R. Lawanya	NGM College of Arts and Science
	M. Ramesh	GRD College of Science
Secretary	V. Guru Moorthi	Bharathiar University
Joint Secretary	S. Sampathraj	Hindustan College of Arts and Science
Treasurer	C. Kalidass	PSG College of Arts and Science
Joint Treasurer	S. Gokulnath	CMS College of Science and Commerce
Documentation Officers	Pooja Kumari	CSI Bishop Appasamy College of Arts and Science
	C. Elizabeth	Bharathiar University

Executive Members

Name	Institute
P.A. Josh	Sree Saraswathi Thyagaraja College
K.M. Silambarasan	Hindustan College of Arts and Science
S. Raymond	Sri Krishna Arts and Science College
G.B. Yavana Rani	Avinashilingam University for Women
E. Sathish	PSG College of Arts and Science
I. Nachiappan	Amrita University
A. Eswara Moorthi	NGM College of Arts and Science
A. Aishwarya	Sri Narayana Guru College of Arts and Science
S. Lukeman	RVS College of Arts and Science
S. Karthikeyan	GRD College of Science

District Level Oratorical Competition on Disability for School Students

YWDIS, in collaboration with the Department of Social Work, CSI Bishop Appasamy College of Arts and Science conducted a District Level Oratorical Competition on Disability for School Students with an objective to create awareness on disability, on 28 October at CSI Bishop Appasamy College of Arts and Science.

The prize winners are as follows:



Medium	Position	Name of the Student	Institute
Tamil	First	P. Gowtham	Sri Gopal Naidu Higher Secondary School
	Second	K. Anjana Devi	Vasavi Vidyalaya Matric. Higher Secondary School
		K. Subhashini	Mani Higher Secondary School
	Third	S. Poornakala	PSG Sarvajana Higher Secondary School
		Kogulakannan	Sri Gopal Naidu Higher Secondary School
	Consolation	S. Sangeetha	CSI Girls Higher Secondary School
		M. Poornima	Avinashilingam Higher Secondary School
English	First	Esther Sharon	Bharathi Matric. Higher Secondary School
	Second	V. Shalini Menon	Nirmala Matric. Higher Secondary School
		Priya Varsha Ravichandran	Vidya Vikasini Matric. Higher Secondary School
	Third	Shalithra Srinivasan	Sri Gopal Naidu Higher Secondary School
		R. Bharathkumar	Mani Higher Secondary School
	Consolation	C. Nandhini Devi	GKD Matric. Higher Secondary School
		R. Ragul	National Model Matric. Higher Secondary School



School Awareness Programme

- YWDIS volunteers conduct a series of awareness programmes on disability in various schools of Coimbatore every year. In the last four years, more than 1,200 college students and 11,000 school students have been oriented on Disability Management.
- In the year 2010, a total of 552 college students and 2,933 school students were oriented. The school students were oriented on the basics of disability such as the causes, types, characteristics, educational methods, etc. The students were also provided with a handbook containing basic information on disability. The details of the programme conducted in 2010 are as follows:

S.No.	School	No. of Students
1	Vallalar Gurukulam Matriculation School	146
2	Government High School, Kalapalayam	122
3	Bharatha Matha Matriculation School	120
4	PRG High School, Thenamanallur	100
5	Government High School, Thondamuthur	150
6	Government High School, Puthur	152
7	PU Middle School, Santhekoundanputhur, KK Chavadi	300
8	PU Middle School, Peranaickenputhur, Avinashi	68
9	St. Thomas Marthoma High School, Gudalur	60
10	Government Higher Secondary School, Pannimadai	774
11	Government High School, Kanuvai	320
12	PU Middle School, Thenamanallur	125
13	PU Middle School, Pachapalayam, S.S. Kulam	100
14	PU Middle School, ACC	120
15	PU Middle School, Chinnavedampatti	50
16	Government High School, Naduvekoundenpalayam	50
17	Kikani Higher Secondary School, Coimbatore	64
18	PU Middle School, Cheran Managar	62
19	Government High School, Erode	50
Total		2933



Empowerment of Disabled Peoples' Organisation and Parents' Organisation

Inauguration of UDIS Forum - SAARATHY-PAMMAC Employment Training Centre

- An Employment Training Centre for the Mentally Challenged youth was inaugurated on 22 March at Kanuvai, Coimbatore by Mrs. C. Jasmine, District Disabled Rehabilitation Officer, Coimbatore. Mr. Vijay Kant, Chief Operations Manager, PARIVAAR-NFPA and Mr. R.S. Raman, Hon. Secretary, ROSHNI Voluntary Organization attended the function.



Disabled Peoples' Organization Promotion Meeting at Coonoor and Tirupur

- The DPO Promotion meeting for the Nilgiris District was held on 12 June at the office of Puthiya Puyal, a DPO located at YMCA Corner, Coonoor. 28 PWDs and 4 parents attended this meeting. Representatives from CALIBER and Puthiya Puyal had an interactive session and various suggestions were put forth regarding the general functioning of DPOs.
- Another DPO Promotion meeting was held at Tirupur on 19 July. It was organized in coordination with Mr. Sathishkumar who works for the welfare of PWDs in Tirupur. A total of 34 PWDs and 3 parents attended the meeting.

Vocational Training Programme

- To promote self employment among persons with disabilities and parents of the intellectually disabled, a vocational training programme on "Artificial Flower Making" was organized for 3 days from 13 to 15 December in the UDIS Forum office premises. A total of 9 PWDs and 14 parents underwent this vocational training programme. The trainees were also given practice kits for their further learning.



Workshop on "Leadership Training and Capacity Building for Visually Challenged Women"

- A three day workshop on Leadership Training and Capacity Building for visually challenged women was jointly organized by the UDIS Forum and Association for the Rights of the Visually Challenged (ARVIC) for the recipients of Marga Schulze Scholarship from 27 to 29 December at CMS College of Science and Commerce. More than 45 visually challenged women attended this workshop. Various topics on leadership were discussed and the participants found the programme motivating and useful.



UDIS Expansion Programme

Launching of “UDIS-SIGHTSAVERS Network Project”

- The UDIS Forum–Sightsavers Network programme in Tamil Nadu was launched at a function held in the UDIS Forum Administrative office, Coimbatore on 22 December.
- Representatives of four DPOs from Namakkal, Erode, Tiruvallur and Ramanathapuram districts, one parents organization from Madurai, local DPOs, PWDs, Parents, Trustees of UDIS Forum, MSW students from different colleges and media persons participated in the function.
- Mr. Shrinivas Sawant, South India Area Director, Sightsavers, Mumbai launched this network programme in Tamil Nadu.
- Training on the implementation of UDIS–SIGHTSAVERS Network Programmes was conducted for the field workers and representatives of the District Nodal Agencies.



Network Meeting for DPOs and NGOs on “Disability Management” in Ramanathapuram and Sivagangai Districts

- To execute the Sightsavers assisted network project on “Training cum employment services to the persons with disabilities and youth awareness on Disability Management”, a preliminary network meeting for DPOs and NGOs in Ramanathapuram and Sivagangai districts was held in the office of Community Health Organization for Rural Development (CHORD) at Kallal on 28 July.
- A total of 30 participants from various DPOs and NGOs attended this network meeting and were oriented to the network concept.



Sensitisation Programme on “Right to Work and Employment of Persons with Disabilities”

- The UDIS Forum organized a Sensitization Programme on “Right to Work and Employment of Persons with Disabilities with special reference to visual impairment” sponsored by the National Institute for the Visually Handicapped Regional Centre, Chennai on 26 October at UDIS Forum Administrative Office, Coimbatore.
- The programme was attended by more than 70 representatives from industries, business management institutions, non-government organizations, Disabled Peoples’ organizations, departments of social work and advocacy groups.
- Dr. I. Arivanandham, Regional Director (i/c), NIVH Regional Centre, Chennai, inaugurated the event.
- The day long programme had lectures from professionals and persons with disabilities on rights and employment related issues of persons with disabilities.



Disability Helpline

- UDIS Forum launched a Disability Helpline on 3 September at the UDIS Forum office premises at Thadagam Road, Luna Nagar, Coimbatore and the programme is monitored by CALIBER, a partner organisation of the UDIS Forum.
- The purpose of the helpline is to provide the following information to persons with disabilities:
 - Central and State Govt. Schemes for the PWDs
 - Educational schemes for PWDs and Institutions offering admissions to PWDs
 - Service Organizations offering assistance to PWDs
 - Availability of Equipment/Assistive Devices for the PWDs
 - Centres for Education and Rehabilitation of the PWDs
 - Services for PWDs in General welfare schemes (in both Private and Public sector)
 - Employment opportunities for the PWDs
 - Information on Disabled People's Organization (DPOs) and Parents Association
 - Developments in Disability at the National and International level
 - Information gallery for the PWDs
- So far more than 1300 calls were received in which around 500 calls were regarding employment, 150 calls for training, 100 calls regarding exams and the rest for various important information.



Helpline Numbers : +91-422-2405551, +91-94898 08000 G Email : rights4pwd@gmail.com

World Disability Day

UDIS Forum observed the World Disability Day on 7 December at CSI Bishop Appasamy College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore. As a part of the programme, three employers from various sectors who have provided more number of employment to persons with disabilities during 2009-10, were given recognition awards, as a token of appreciation and gratitude on behalf of UDIS Forum. Mrs. A. Latha, Regional Deputy Director (Employment), Coimbatore presented the awards. The awardees were : Ganga Hospital, Indo Shell Mould Limited, OPTIS - Optimum Training Service, Sri Krishna Sweets.



On the eve of World Disability Day, YWDIS conducted a district level oratorical competition on disability for school students with an objective to create awareness on disability. The competition was held on 28 October at CSI Bishop Appasamy College of Arts and Science. The topic given was: "How can I involve myself in the empowerment of persons with disability?" and "The person with disability who inspired me the most." Mrs. Susheila Williams Sargunar, Secretary, CSI Bishop Appasamy College of Arts and Science distributed the prizes to the winners of the competition.

Greenability Trekking Programme

In order to orient the children with disability on environmental issues and also to spread the message of Greenability to the public through them, the UDIS Forum, in collaboration with the CBM SARO(S), organized the Greenability Trekking Programme on 31 October by mobilizing students from all parts of Tamil Nadu. Students from the following institutions attended the programme:



S.No.	Name of the Institution	No of participants
1	CSI Bishop Appasamy College of Education, Coimbatore	4
2	Government Arts College, Coimbatore	2
3	High School for the Blind, Palayamkottai, Tirunelveli District	5
4	IELC School for the Blind, Barugur, Krishnagiri District	6
5	CSI High School for the Deaf, Kottaram, Kanyakumari District	6
6	Anbagam Special School, Madurai	5
7	YMCA KAMAK School for Deaf, Madurai	4
8	Govt High School, Kurichi, Coimbatore	3
9	St. Micheal's Higher Sec. School, Coimbatore	3
10	Star Special School, Coimbatore	7
11	CSI Girls Higher Secondary School, Coimbatore	24
12	Vidya Vikasini Opportunity School, Coimbatore	4
13	Little House of Divine Providence Cottelengo Sisters, Coimbatore	8
14	KRISH School, Coimbatore	5
15	Saarathy PAMMAC, Coimbatore	6
16	Caliber Trust, Coimbatore	3
17	Dr. P.G.V. Charitable Trust - EMPOWERED Project, Coimbatore	4

The Coimbatore District Collector Dr. P. Umanath formally flagged off the march of the disabled students which started from the Coimbatore District Collectorate and wished the programme a grand success. The final destination was the Sálim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON), Anaikatty, where the children were informed about the various activities of the centre and about environment conservation. The children enjoyed the programme and requested for more initiatives similar to this.



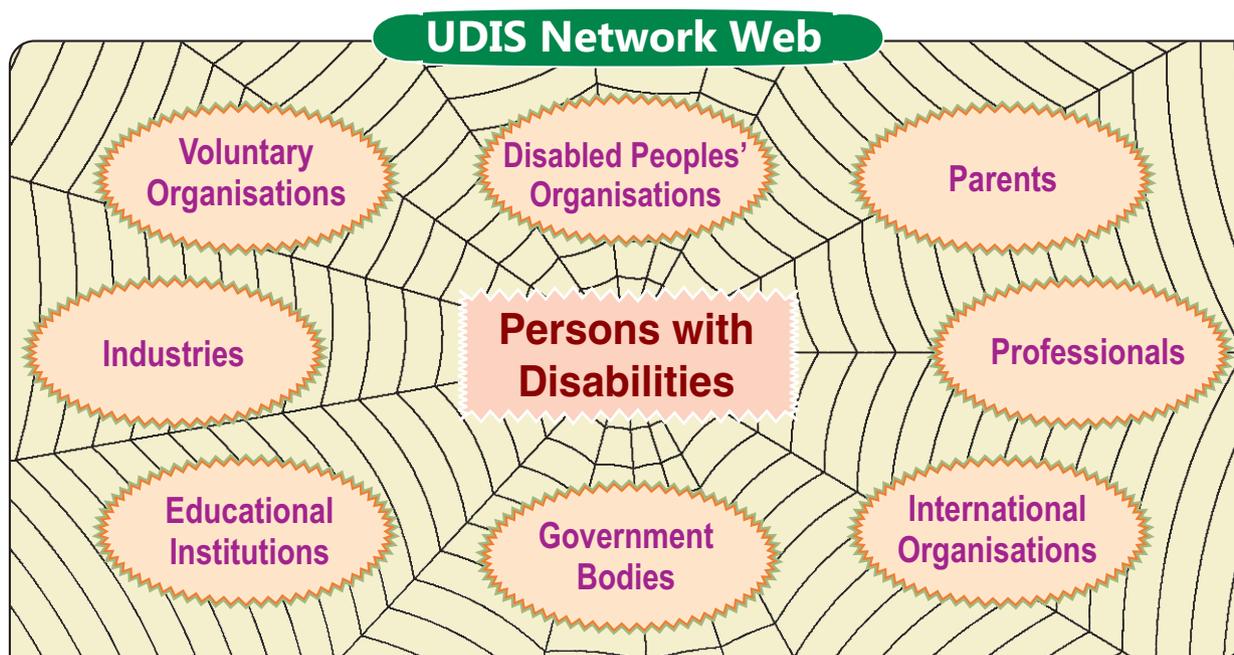
Our Gratitudes

The UDIS Forum lauds the efforts of the following organisations / industries / institutions towards the empowerment of persons with disabilities:

- CBM, South Asia Regional Office, Bangalore
 - Sightsavers India, Mumbai
 - The District Employment Office, Coimbatore
 - The District Differently Abled Welfare Office, Coimbatore
-
- AES Technologies (I) Pvt. Ltd.
 - A1 Chips
 - Sree Adhavan Garments
 - Associated Autotex Ancillaries (P) Ltd.
 - Best Engineers Pumps Pvt. Ltd.
 - Bhuvaneshwari Engineering
 - BMN Kalyana Mandapam
 - Captain BPO Centre
 - Dhyan Acupuncture Clinic and Hospitals Research (P) Ltd.
 - Euroka Systems and Electrodes (P) Ltd.,
 - Ganga Medical Centre & Hospitals Pvt. Ltd.
 - Gowri Metals
 - Holy Cross Matriculation Higher Secondary School
 - Indo Shell Private Limited
 - KG Apparel Pvt. Ltd.
 - Kumpanar Pumpsets
 - LGB Rollon Limited
 - National Adventure and Leadership School (NALS)
 - Nagammai Pharmacy
 - New Tech Computer Centre
 - Optimum Training Centre
 - Perot Systems
 - Pricol Packaging Private Ltd.
 - Seven Hills Entrepreneurs
 - Shape India Exports Pvt. Ltd.
 - Solamalai Enterprises
 - Sree Krishna Sweets
 - Sri Kumaran Thangamaligai
 - Sri Annai InfoTech
 - Sri Renga Apparels (India) Pvt. Ltd.
 - Subha Plastics
 - The Chennai Silks
 - USAM Technology Solutions (P) Ltd.
 - V Serve Solution
 - Venkateswara Suppliers Ltd.
- (All from Coimbatore District)*
- Infosys Non-technical services, Bangalore
 - A.M. Jain College, Chennai
 - Assefa College of Education, Madurai
 - Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore
 - C.B.M. College, Kovaipudur, Coimbatore
 - Chellammal Women's College, Chennai
 - Dr. G.U. Pope College of Education, Thoothukudi
 - DVS College of Arts & Science, Shimoga
 - Ethiraj College for Women, Chennai
 - Government Arts College, Dharmapuri
 - Government College of Education for Women, Coimbatore
 - Government College of Education, Orathanadu
 - Government College of Education, Vellore
 - Government Degree College, Hayathnagar
 - Grace College of Education, Kanyakumari
 - J J College of Education, Trichy
 - Jyothi Composite PU College, Bangalore
 - Jyothi Nivas College (Autonomous), Bangalore
 - Kandhasami Naidu Women's College, Cuddalore
 - Kapi Women's College of Education, Madurai
 - Kunthavai Naachiyar Govt. Arts College for Women, Tanjore
 - Lady Willington Institute of Adv. Study in Education, Chennai
 - Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai
 - Mariamman College of Education, Trichy
 - Mohammed Sathak Teacher Training College, Padur
 - Mount Caramel Pre University College, Bangalore
 - Muslim College of Education, Thiruvithancode
 - N.K.T. National College of Education for Women, Chennai
 - N.M.S.S.V.N. College, Madurai
 - Nirmala College for Women, Coimbatore
 - Nizam College, Hyderabad
 - O.U. College for Women, Hyderabad
 - Presidency College, Chennai
 - Quaid-E-Millat Govt. College for Women, Chennai
 - Queen Mary's College, Chennai
 - Raj College of Education, Madurai
 - S.T. Hindu College, Nagercoil
 - S.Vellaichamy Nadar College Madurai
 - Sourashtra Teacher's College, Sivagangai District
 - Sri Meenakshi Government College for Women, Madurai
 - Sri Saradha College for Women, Salem
 - Sri Sundareswari College of Education, Srivilliputhur (Tk)
 - St. Anne's Pre University College for Girls, Bangalore
 - St. Philomena's College, Mysore
 - St. Stephen's College of Education for Women, Madurai
 - Stella Maris College, Chennai
 - University College for Women, Hyderabad
 - University of Madras, Chennai
 - Vel's University - Vinayaga College of Education, Chennai
 - Vivekananda Government Degree College, Hyderabad
 - Voorhees College of Arts, Vellore

Our Gratitudes (Contd...)

- Amrita University, Coimbatore
- AJK College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore
- Bharathiar University, Coimbatore
- Bharathidasan University, Trichy
- CMS College of Science and Commerce, Coimbatore
- CSI Bishop Appasamy College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore
- Dr. GRD College of Science, Coimbatore
- Hindustan College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore
- Karpagam University, Coimbatore
- Nehru Arts and Science College, Coimbatore
- NGM College, Pollachi
- Periyar Maniammai University, Tanjore
- PSG College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore
- RVS College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore
- SMS College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore
- Sree Saraswathi Thyagaraja College, Pollachi
- Sri Krishna Arts and Science College, Coimbatore
- Sri Narayana Guru College, Coimbatore
- Sri Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore
- Association for the Rights of the Visually Challenged, Coimbatore
- CALIBER, Coimbatore
- Cheran Region Christian Society for the Disabled, Coimbatore
- Coimbatore Association of the Deaf, Coimbatore
- Dr. P.G.V. Charitable Trust, Coimbatore
- Feed Trust, Ramanathapuram District
- Goodwill Foundation of India, Chennai
- Grama Udhayam, Tirunelveli District
- Indian Association for the Blind, Madurai
- Jyothi Seva Home for the Blind Children, Bangalore
- Keelottivakkam Grama Sangam, Kancheepuram District
- Lotus Blind Welfare Trust of India, Chennai
- Madurai Phoenix Parents' Association, Madurai District
- Malarvanam Charitable Trust, Thiruvallur District
- Namakkal District Physically Handicapped Welfare Association, Namakkal District
- PARIVAAR-NFPA
- Saarathy PAMMAC, Coimbatore
- Tamil Nadu Association for the Blind, Chennai
- Vazhndhu Kaattuvom Project
- Vivegam Charitable Trust, Erode District



For further details:



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