



# National Ability Association of India

## **Annual Report**

### **Year 2013 - 2014**

The National Ability Association of India (NAAI) was formed in May 2001 at the behest of the Government of India with Amar Jyoti Charitable Trust as its coordinating agency to serve as a nodal agency to formulate, initiate and implement policies to propagate Abilitypics – the Olympics of vocational skills - in the country. The broad objectives of NAAI are:

- To provide facilities for enhancement of skills in different vocations to persons with disabilities.
- To promote and organize Regional, National and International meets and competitions in vocational skills.
- To involve Central and State Governments & NGOs in the activities of NAAI.
- To empower persons with disabilities for economic independence.
- To provide exposure and opportunity to persons with disabilities to share and learn latest technological developments in various vocational fields.

The National Headquarters was setup in Delhi and a Governing Body was constituted to plan and guide the activities. As a first step, five zones were established - namely North, South, East, West & Central for ease of functioning. Two to three vice –presidents were appointed in each zone and each of them was associated with local NGOs with requisite infrastructure in the disability sector. This initial allocation helped to create awareness about Abilitypics and as an endeavour to improve the quality of life of differently-abled persons for always and in all ways by demonstrating their abilities in different vocational skills.

Since its inception, NAAI has been organizing district, state, regional and national abilitypics in different parts of the country. It has also facilitated participation of an Indian Contingent in the International Abilitypics. All this was possible with full support from the Government, NGOs, the private and public sectors as well as individuals.

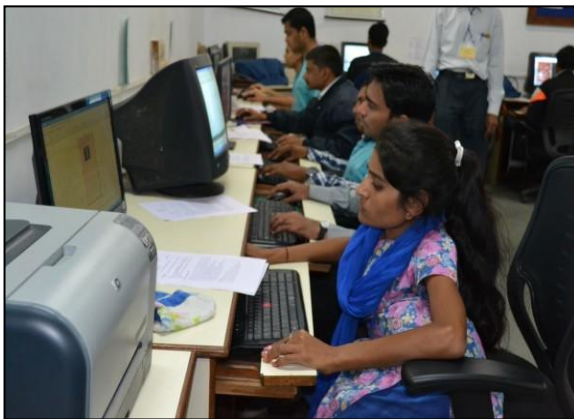


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The National Ability Association of India is in its 14th year of existence. During this period the Ability scene has changed and the movement has spread far and wide throughout the country. It has provided a platform for persons with disabilities to demonstrate their indomitable spirit, courage and talent. A large cross-section of society has become aware of the abilities of the differently-abled. Increasingly, a larger number of institutions and persons with disability are showing interest and keenness to participate in the vocational as well as leisure and living skills competitions at District, State, Regional and National level.

In order to plan Regional Ability competitions budget for conducting the same in different zones was formulated and submitted to the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment for approval.

The Budget was subsequently approved. NAAI conducted Regional Ability competitions in all the five zones of the country viz at Delhi – North Zone, Gwalior-Central Zone, Ahmedabad – West Zone, Chennai- South Zone and Bhubaneswar – East Zone. Between 32-33 vocational ( computer programming, creating web pages, tailoring men's, dress making –basic and advance etc.) and leisure & living skills (crochet work, hand knitting , waste reuse etc.) contests were conducted in different zones.



Regional Ability competitions East Zone convened with the 'lighting of the lamp' by Smt. Arati Ahuja IAS, Commissioner Cum Secretary, Dept. Women and Child Development of the Government of Odisha. She highlighted some of the programmes of the government and how the future of the participants would be impacted with the skills they learnt. Participants from



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West Bengal, Odisha, Bihar and Assam have participated in the events. Some of the participants from Odisha could not attend due to floods.

Regional Abilympics North Zone was inaugurated by Kumari Selja, Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment on October 10, 2013. Ms. Stuti Kacker, Secretary and Mr. Awanish Kumar Awasthi, Joint Secretary, Department of Disability Affairs, members of the Governing Body, donors and invitees were present on the occasion. She appreciated the efforts of NAAI and Amar Jyoti and said that



Abilympics provides an excellent opportunity for persons with disabilities to showcase their talent and make the world know their abilities. She assured all possible help from the Government for the spread of abilympic movement in the country. She also highlighted some of the new schemes and programmes of the Ministry for the benefit of persons with disability. Participants from 6 states and 1 Union Territory took part in 34 vocational and leisure and living skills contests. List of events is attached.

His Excellency the Governor of Gujarat, Dr. Smt. Kamla inaugurated the event at Ahmedabad. The trustees of BPA, donors, well wishers, volunteers and a large number of members of the society were present on the occasion and during the contests. In addition to the contests where the participants exhibited their exceptional abilities and entertainment programme was also arranged during the regionals. An encouraging feature of Regionals in South & East Zones was participation from newer organizations and from rural areas. Around 2000 participants including officials & escorts took part in all the five zones as per details given below. Events like English text processing, painting water colours, poster design on computer and paper, flower arrangement etc. attracted a large number of participants.



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The event was inaugurated at Anna University on 6<sup>th</sup> December-2013. Mr. Jayakodi, IAS Principal Secretary, State Commissioner of Department of Differently Abled, Tamil Nadu was the chief guest on the inaugural function. Air Marshal SG Inamadar, President NAAI and Mr. Amitabh Srivastava, along with a large number of guests also attended the inaugural session. At the end of each event all the products made by the contestants were kept for display for everyone to see.

Vice Chancellor, Jiwaji University inaugurated the Regional Abilympics – Central Zone on December 19, 2013 in the presence of Commissioner Disability, Madhya Pradesh, Ms. Renu Singh, Former Commissioner Disability, Rajasthan, Officials from Gwalior, donors and a number of invitees. The organizing committee was chaired by the Collector, Gwalior who ensured full support from the local authorities and media coverage to the event.

SN	Zone	Organisation / State	Dates	No. of Participants
1	East	Shanta Memorial Rehabilitation Centre, Bhubaneswar	August 1-3, 2013	265
2	North	Amar Jyoti Charitable Trust, Delhi	October 10-12, 2013	361
3	West	Blind People's Association, Ahmedabad	November 21-23, 2013	360
4	South	Vidya Sagar, Chennai	December 6-7, 2013	603
5	Central	Amar Jyoti School & Rehabilitation Centre, Gwalior	December 19-21, 2013	250



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NAAI participated in SAMARTH 2014 – Celebrating Diversity - an event to showcase the talent of persons with disabilities on January 15-16, 2014 at Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi. The event was organized by the Department of Disability Affairs, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India. It was inaugurated by Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson UPA. Kumari Selja Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice was also



present during the event. Demonstrations of 9 events including Mechanical Assembly, jewellery making, creating web pages, embroidery were organized. A total of 24 participants along with their escorts from different parts of the country took part in the event.

Hunnarbaaz ! Skilled to Win is a major television initiative under the Prime Minister's Skills Mission. The programme is being supported by National Skill Development Council of India and Ministry of Labour and Employment. This has been planned as a prime time reality show on grass roots skills and innovations to be telecast by Doordarshan National Network. An exclusive episode on the skills of persons with disabilities shot in collaboration with National Abilympic Association of India and has been telecast.

**Budget:** The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment sanctioned the grant-in-aid of Rs. 72,45,483/- (Rupees Seventy Two Lacs, Forty Five Thousand Four Hundred and Eight Three only ) as 75% of their share for holding the Regional Abilympics in all the five zones. The remaining amount was raised by the NAAI through donations from individuals, corporate and philanthropists. A copy of the independent auditor's report as on March 31, 2014 including the Income & Expenditure and the Receipt & Payment for the year is attached.

**Conclusion:** Efforts were also made to spread the Abilympic movement outside the country. Global Rainbow Foundation a member of the IAF was planning to hold the 1<sup>st</sup> Abilympics in Mauritius in August 2013. A team of two members went to Mauritius and made a presentation to the GRF, NGOs and institutions working in the disability sector. The organizers have decided to postpone holding the Abilympics at a later date.



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It is proposed to hold the 4<sup>th</sup> National Abilympics at National Institute of Technical teacher's Training & Research, Chandigarh in November 2014. The medal winners from all the five zones along with limited number of lateral entries as per rules will participate in the National Abilympics.