



National Abilympic Association of India

**NATIONAL ABILYMPIC ASSOCIATION
OF INDIA (NAAI)**

Annual Report

2016-17

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Chapter 1

NAAI Overview and Abilympics Background

The word Abilympics is a combination of two words ‘Abilities’ and ‘Olympics’. These are vocational skill competitions for Persons with Disability (PwD) and provide them an opportunity to showcase their professional skills. Abilympics have helped in generating greater public awareness about the skills, potential and abilities of differently-abled persons (Divyanjan) and contribution, they can make to the society. It has also resulted in increased opportunities of employment for them.

The contests/competitions are organized under five broad categories, namely –

(i) ICT (ii) Crafts (iii) Industry (iv) Service and (v) Food.

However, NAAI will be organizing the vocational skill competitions in four of the above mentioned categories, viz. ICT, Crafts, Industry and Food. These will include trades 20 trades like, creating web pages, waste reuse, photography, hand knitting, embroidery, crochet work etc. The contests will be judged based on the quality of the finished product and not on the measure of disability of the contestant.

In May 2001, at the behest of Ministries of Social Justice & Empowerment (MSJE) and Human Resource Development (HRD), Government of India, the National Abilympic Association of India (NAAI) was formed. NAAI was launched basically to organize India’s participation in the 6th Abilympics to be held in New Delhi and in the subsequent international events. The association originated at Amar Jyoti, Charitable Trust in Delhi and has since then expanded to five zones across India. All five zones are associated with local NGOs connected to the disability sector. They work together with the help of NGOs and district administrations to arrange and host regional level Abilympics prior to the national & international competitions to assist in spreading the Abilympics movement around the country.

Chapter 2

Handover of NAAI to Sarthak Educational Trust

On December 12, 2016, Sarthak Educational Trust, engaged in mainstreaming of Persons with Disability through vocational skilling and placement since 2008 officially took over National Abilympic Association of India. Sarthak is serving its beneficiary groups through 11 centers



throughout India with the support of National Skill Development Corporation, Tech Mahindra Foundation, Capgemini India Private Limited, Microsoft, Hans Foundation, and various other agencies. Till now, Sarthak Educational Trust has provided training to 7000 specially-abled candidates & placed 10,000 candidates in IT/ITes, Tourism & Hospitality, Retail, Manufacturing, E-commerce & Banking Sector.

This remarkable association between NAAI and Sarthak paves the way for more inclusive approach owing to Sarthak's Pan-India presence and strong support system of wide group of stakeholders (Government Agencies, Corporate Bodies, Civil Society, and PwDs).

Chapter 3

Governing Board - NAAI

On December 12, 2016, NAAI was taken over by Sarthak Educational Trust, and a new governing board was constituted to manage, execute and supervise activities of NAAI within the overall objectives. As an outcome of this coalition, scope of both the organizations actively contributing in disability sector is expected to move to another level).

New NAAI Governing Board was constituted following the mandated structure of the governing body given below:

President	1
National Vice Presidents	3
Secretary General	1
Secretaries	2
Regional Representatives	5 (1 from Each Zone)
Members	13

The new governing body members elected include:

Patrons:

- Dr. M. B. Athreya, Management Guru, Padma Bhushan Awardee
- Dr. Uma Tuli, Founder, NAAI
- Air Marshal Satish J. Inamdar, Past President, NAAI
- Shri Ranjan Chopra, Founder & CMD, Team Computers

Governing Body:

- Shri Krishan Kalra – President
- Sh. Bhushan Punani - Immediate Ex-President
- Dr. Sudhir Gupta – Vice President
- Shri Sandeep Bhargava – Vice President
- Shri Lov Verma - Vice President
- Dr. Jitender Aggarwal – Secretary General
- Shri Raj Kapur – National Secretary
- Ms. Minetta Paatil - National Secretary
- Dr. Bhushan Punani – Immediate, Past President

Chapter 4

NAAI Vision, Mission & Objectives

NAAI has been focused in its approach of empowering PwD's and creating an inclusive environment through bringing out the excellence in skilling in them. NAAI works for providing a supporting environment for blooming talent in the area of vocational skills of PwDs. At the forefront of NAAI's motivation is assistance to differently-abled individuals in gaining economic independence to enable them to identify themselves as valuable, fully integrated members of society.

Vision –

To empower People with Disability to live their life with dignity and integrity.

Mission –

Create public awareness and nurture the productive talent of persons with disabilities by providing them opportunities to acquire and enhance their vocational skills to achieve economic independence

Objectives –

- 1. To develop, initiate and implement strategies to promote Abilympics in the country.**
- 2. To advocate, organize, and participate in regional, national, and international competitions to empower disabled persons.**
- 3. To provide exposure and equal opportunities to disabled persons to advanced technologies in various vocational, leisure and living skills.**
- 4. To help increase the confidence of those competing and provide memorable occasions for all persons involved.**

The vocational skills events that take place during each competition contribute greatly to achieving NAAI's goals.

Chapter 5

NAAI Plan of Action

NAAI is in its 16th year of existence. During this period the Abilympics movement has spread throughout the country and has helped increase awareness about the abilities of disabled people in society. Each year, since its initiation, the organization has continued to grow whilst maintaining a high standard. Since its beginning NAAI has represented India in the 6th (2003-India), 7th (2007-Japan), 8th (2011-South Korea) and 9th (2016 - France), International Abilympics.

Next International Abilympics are scheduled to be held in China in 2020, where NAAI will be facilitate participation of Indian PwD contingent . To select the best talent available in different zones in India, Regional assessment camps would be organized in April-May, 2018, followed by National Abilympics in July, 2018 in association with India Skills Events (organized by National Skill Development Corporation). Thereafter, skill support would be arranged for selected participants through corporate partners not only to prepare them for International events in 2020, but improve the scope of these participants in getting employed either through Corporate or enhancing self employment opportunities also.

Chapter 6

NAAI in Progress

During the current year the main focus of activities was on completing the administrative formalities of the organisation after taking over of the organization.

Some of the other activities which took place during 2016-17 were –

(a) NAAI Round Table Conference (15 Feb, 2017):

A Round Table discussion was organized on 15th February, 2017, at Indian Radiological & Imaging Association, Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi, with the following agenda - Strategies to increase the reach of NAAI – Possible Challenges, & Solutions

Participants of the Meet included - Office bearers of National Abilympics Association of India, Corporate Houses, past participants of NAAI, Senior representatives from various Civil Society Organization.



The meeting was organized with following objectives –

1. Getting an in-depth insight and varied perspective through participation of Non Government Organizations, Persons with Disability, Participants and Winners in Abilympics at Regional/National/International levels, and Experts/Judges in Abilympic events,
2. Engage participants & stakeholders in the brainstorming session to discuss about the betterment and further improvisation of NAAI's operations to take the institution to greater heights.

The major outcomes of the meet were as follows:

1. Focusing on employability of participants through Skill Building and Training,

2. Use of Social Media Handles and Digital Media to promote NAAI's objectives far and wide;
3. Publishing profiles of past winners and success stories of the participants over digital and paper media;
4. Associated Government Bodies, Corporate Houses, and Ngo Groups can affix NAAI's logo on their respective website with a brief write – up to increase the channel footfall;
5. Also, the associated individual can add NAAI's logo & website link in their email signature;
6. Use Skill India's Portal/ Application to register NAAI to widen the channel;
7. NAAI's network can be expanded by associating with CRCs, DDRCs, and other such bodies;
8. Promotion of NAAI and its operations on mass communication medium especially, All India Radio to reach out to the grass root level.

(b) Skill Evaluation under ICT, September 11-13, 2017

The skill assessment of North Zone PwD applicants was organized under ICT categories, namely – Web designing, Word Processing, Photography (indoors), Desktop Publishing and Data processing. These Skill evaluation trials were conducted in partnership with AIMS Media, Patparganj, New Delhi from September 11th to 13th, 2017, at their premises. Each event was evaluated by panel of experts of AIMS Media.



More than 80 entries under ICT trade were received from PwD participants of North Zone states – Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Six participants were shortlisted based on their evaluations in Web designing, Photography and Word processing. It was emphasized to further improve and train these participants in the specific skills they showed promise in.

Chapter 7

NAAI Financial Overview

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MSJE) used to provide 75% sponsorship for participation in International Abilympics under Deen Dayal Upadhyay Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) till 2014. Thereafter, sponsorship for projects of International Abilympics was withdrawn on the ground of no provision to support an International Event under DDRS.

Many rounds of meeting with Officials of Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) were held post submission of funding proposal to MSDE for conducting Abilympic events. It was finally agreed by both MSDE and NSDC to hold regional and national events along-side India Skill events organized by NSDC. They have in principal also informed to provide infrastructural support for organizing Regional and National Abilympic events.

The Indian contingent will be supported by NSDC for participating in International Event which is more likely to be held along with World Skill events, to be held in Shanghai, China in 2020. Participation in the abilympic competitions (Regional, National, & International) would give a fillip to the skill development efforts of MSDE by bringing in the PwDs in their constituency in a big way. This less privileged section of society would get a chance to learn skills, hitherto denied to them, in an inclusive environment. Recognition at various stages after competition would encourage more and more PwDs to come forward for skill development and eventually placement in suitable jobs, then becoming equally productive members of society.

Proposal for funding regional events/assessment camps was also submitted to Hans Foundation in October, 2017, which has been approved by the Foundation for holding the Regional events.