

DEAF LEADERS

Deaf
Empowerment
Activities
For
Literacy,
Education,
Accessible
Development,
Employment,
Rehabilitation
& Sports



6TH ANNUAL REPORT
[2008 TO 2009]



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DEAF
VISION
TOMORROW

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Deaf Leaders to celebrate 5th Anniversary

Tmt. Subblaksmi Jagadessan
Minister of State for Social
Justice and Empowerment
And
Thiru. M. Manickam
Vice Chairman cum Managing
Director, Sakthi Sugar Ltd



New software for people with hearingimpairment

Creating awareness about early detection of hearing problems is the need of the hour, **Subbulakshmi Jagadeesan**, Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, on 23rd August 08 at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University

Inaugurating innovative software for people with hearing impairment at the fifth anniversary celebrations of Deaf Leaders, an organisation working for the empowerment of people with hearing disability, she said parents should be able to detect hearing problems in children within a year of their birth. If the problem was detected early, through specialised treatment and care, the problem could be rectified to a great extent, she asserted.

The Government was also taking a lot of efforts in setting up early intervention centres in each district for the benefit of mothers and children with hearing impairment.

Though the number of children being born with hearing disability had gone down, there was a need to make the public aware of the problem.

Consanguineous marriages could lead to such problems.

The new software launched would convert text to sign language. It was designed to help those with hearing impairment learn sign language and guide them in public places such as railway stations and post offices.

It also helps them understand movie subtitles and news. K.Murali, Director of Deaf Leaders, said the need to create awareness about sign language was felt most at the school level as a majority of students were poor in reading, writing and basic communication skills.



DEAF LEADERS AWARDS 2008

Best Award for Deaf Achievement

Award for Best School for the Deaf in Coimbatore
INFANT JESUS SCHOOL
 for the Hearing Impaired

Award for Best Head Mistress
S. THAMIL SELVI
 Corporation School of the Deaf

Award for Best Teacher
A. CHITRA
 K.G. Oral School for the Hearing Impaired

Mr. K. Maragassery
 Founder and Secretary
 Tiruppur School of the Deaf, Tiruppur

Best Award for Deaf Technology

Best Award for Empowerment of Deaf Women

Best Award for Sign Language Development

Best Award for Youth Achievement

Mr. Shankar
 Technologist,
 Gemina Infotech Pvt. Ltd., Chh. Confederation of Indian Industry, New Delhi

Mr. Kajal Shevon
 Executive,
 Confederation of Indian Industry, New Delhi

Mr. Ramakrishnan
 Head, Silent world,
 Anushasan, Transforming Lives

Mr. Rajesh Kumar,
 Resource, Deaf Leaders,
 Coimbatore

Best Award for Deaf Business

Best Award for Deaf Organisation

Best Award for Deaf Employee

Best Award for Deaf Sports

Mr. Ketan C. Modi
 Chairman
 M/s. Shivani Scientific Ind. (P) Ltd.,
 Mumbai

Mr. Jayashankar
 General Secretary
 Hear Association of the Deaf, Hapur

Mr. Purnachandran
 Senior Technician
 Anand Eye Hospital, Madurai

Mr. Prabhu (Cricketer Player)
 Headman Engineering of
 Technology College, Coe

Supporting & Development Team

Part of the function for the released to inaugurate

- First time in India an Innovative Software called TE.S.L.A (Text to Sign Language Animation)
- Deaf Quiz Software
- New Development in the website of www.indiadeafnews.org
- DVD in Awareness for Empowerment and Education for the Hearing Impaired
- Child's book and poster about DEAF KIDS SIGN LANGUAGE.

Distribute of the following Awards

- 10th Passed Deaf Students
- Awards for Best Schools, Teacher and Head Mistress of Schools for the Deaf in Coimbatore
- DEAF LEADERS AWARD for best service of the Deaf
- Contribution welfare scheme to Poor Deaf Students

Uplift to Literacy and Education

Deaf Leaders Institute for Development Education & Technology - DLI@DET (A Unit of DEAF LEADERS)



The above course is the Certificate is being given by Deaf Leaders Institute for Development Education & Technology and presented to students by **Shri. Col. Prof. Dr. G. Thiruvassagam**, Vice Chancellor, Bharathiyar University, Coimbatore

- Numbers of students joined in the above training programme from April 2008 to July 2009 were 15 students.
- **Special Course:** Provides a bilingual / bicultural learning environment for Deaf, Deafened and hard of hearing individuals. Offers literacy instruction for English, Employment preparation, Maths, Computer based learning, Sign Language, Business training, Self- Employment and Deaf led Community Based Rehabilitation (D-CBR)
- **Higher Education:** Students are guided to acquire higher Education and those who have failed in any class are given special tuitions with emphasis on word meaning, sentence structure and better language management.
- **Resource Library:** A central library with a collection of videos and books which can be borrowed by other schools also. The library includes a range of topics, such as Indian Sign Language, Interpreting, Children stories, English Grammar and teaching guidelines to teach deaf children, leaderships, poetry and more
- We also have a small Library which has more books of International standards for learning more about the above programmes by the students.
- Sign Language teaching is also conducted for better communication.
- They are trained in Exposure to internet, browsing, chat and E-mail

Special English Class Course

A expert teaching to the adults for English & Grammar



Ms. Pranali , Special Teacher from Ishara Foundation, Mumbai was here to teach to the 20 deaf students for training the deaf development education and sign language also English class for 2 months from 20th August to 20th October 08 at this Centre. They have improved for words and writhing sentences of the English

A teaching skill for Basic Knowledge of English & Grammar



Mr. E. Satish, Canara Bank gave training to the 25 Deaf adults for Basic knowledge of English & Grammar every Sunday three hours during January – Feb 2009.

Diploma in Computer Course

Basic Knowledge of Computer



The students is training the basic knowledge of Computer Course in MS Office, Excel, Power point and Internet in B Level

Skill to make website



Mr. Siva Prakesh, Mr. Nindhi and Mr. Viond Kumar of 3 students has training the skill computer in HTML, Flash, Photoshop and website in A Level

Creating Awareness

Workshop and Seminar Programme

One day Workshop on Empowering persons with Deafness through Education.



A communication project for children with hearing impairment, introduced by Deaf Leaders in association with the Rotary Club of Coimbatore Texcity and Rotary Club of Coimbatore West, was launched at Avinashilingam University here on 24th July 2008.

In this regard, a training workshop for teachers handling students with hearing impairment was conducted by the Department of Special Education of Avinashilingam University. The workshop focussed on oral and sign language skills. Teachers from 15 schools exclusively for children with hearing impairment attended the workshop.

“Though teachers in special schools and integrated education systems have degrees in special education, most of them are not up-to-date in the new developments taking place in the field of disability,” said Premavathy Vijayan, Head of the Department of Special Education.

Technology had played a big role in making lives easier for people with disabilities and teachers especially, should be made aware of these technological developments, she added. The workshop aimed at empowering them with newer teaching techniques in oral and sign language communication.

Vice-Chancellor of Avinashilingam University, Saroja Prabhakaran, inaugurated the workshop. Suresh S.Lund, president, Rotary Club of Coimbatore Texcity, Michael W.Morgan, Managing Director, Ishara Foundation Mumbai, C.Jasmine, District Disabled Rehabilitation Officer, Coimbatore and M.Alagirisamy, President of Rotary Club Coimbatore West, took part.

Resource Persons to Students of Deaf Schools at Delhi, Haryana and Nodia

**Mr. K. Murali - Director , DEAF LEADERS
(Resource Persons to students, Bilingual & Research)**



Mr. Murali is pull teaching the students

Ms. Kajal Dhawan – Resource persons to students & Skill Development



Ms. Kajal Dhawan is empowerment for women to support teaching to deaf children.

- At DEAF LEADERS, Where DEAF TEAM conducts concept based training programme for the corporate and also works for the upliftment of hearing impaired. Their dream is to see people with any challenge walk shoulder to shoulder with everyone in the society.
- Awareness programme on “Deaf Empowering through Education” were the important topics at School for the Deaf , Delhi, Harayna , & Nodia and the same was trained by K. Murali, Director , DEAF LEADERS , Ms. Kajal Dhawan and Mr. Rana as Volunteers.
- The vital aspect was that 500 approx students learnt about the knowledge & empowerment..
- Training was given on the topic of Deaf Empowering through Education and many others

Creating an Awareness program for the Hearing Impaired in Sri Lanka

Deaf Leaders team visits Sri Lanka



The team conducted workshops in schools



Visits rural areas to learn about facilities provided for the hearing impaired



Members of Deaf Leaders, a non-Governmental organisation (NGO) working for the welfare of people with hearing impairment in Coimbatore, recently visited Sri Lanka as part of their efforts to empower people with hearing impairment.



K.Murali, Director of Deaf Leaders, and Kajal Dhawan, a young achiever from New Delhi, who is hearing impaired, visited schools exclusively for the hearing impaired and associations that employed people with the disability in Sri Lanka to assess the situation in the country and establish links with the institutions. They also visited rural areas to learn about the facilities provided for the hearing impaired.



They conducted workshops and awareness programmes in schools.



The programme, “Deaf Empowerment through Education and Training Leadership in Youth,” was aimed at creating awareness on hearing impairment and the importance of education and personality development among the youth.

“Only 10 per cent of the hearing impaired are doing well in their academics. It is important to create awareness among the youth about the need to persevere to continue their education,” The problems such as lack of reading and writing skills, self-esteem, poor general knowledge and social skills were common among people with the disability. Unlike other disabilities, the hearing impaired also had poor learning abilities.

Dearth of teachers who could be role models to the youth with hearing impairment was also a challenge. “No or very few activities in the classrooms which did not allow them chances of critical thinking led to very poor social skills too, we advised the managements of the schools for the hearing impaired to provide sufficient teaching materials including books and an atlas. “Some schools even forbid the use of sign language. Every school for the hearing impaired should promote the use of sign language.

Training on Sign Language in Health care

'Doctors should be trained in sign language'



***UNDERSTAND THE DISABLED* : K.Murali, Director, Deaf Leaders, conducting an orientation programme in sign language at KG Hospital in Coimbatore**

Doctors should understand the basics of sign language.

The hearing impaired will then find it easier to explain their problems to the doctor, K.Murali, Director of Deaf Leaders, an organisation working for the empowerment of people with hearing impairment, said here on 19th April 08.

At an orientation programme organised by Deaf Leaders for doctors at K.G.Hospital, Mr.Murali spoke about the need for medical practitioners to be aware of sign language and being able to communicate with people with hearing and speech impairment.

For most of the people with hearing impairment, going to a hospital is a mammoth task, as very few hospital staff who understood sign language, he added.

Coimbatore had over 300 adults and 250 children with hearing impairment and there were only eight schools teaching sign language. People with hearing impairment worked in Government offices, banks, private organisations, but societal stigma against them was still one of the greatest challenges, Mr.Murali said.

Chairman of K.G.Hospital, G.Bakthavathsalam, said that the hospital would take interest in training its staff in sign language.

“The hospital will become one that is friendly to the hearing impaired,”

Implementation

“Communication in Schools”

For resource Person to Students and Teacher in Deaf Schools & Bilingual in education programme

Mr. Rajesh Kmar -
Resource persons to
students & Skill
Development



Mr. Rajesh Kumar is
working as resource
persons to students
and visiting in schools
of the deaf at
Coimbatore / Erode /
Salem / Mettupalayam
and Tirupur

Implement projects the following

When asked to describe the situation of the people with hearing impairment, K. Murali, Director of DEAF LEADERS had this to say - A tortoise has an advantage of swimming in the sea as well as walking on the beach. But for the fish, sea is the only place that they can be in. That is how the Deaf and Mute feel. Lack of verbal communication restricts them from exploring and expressing confidently what they feel and what they can do. They don't have awareness of their own possibilities of their life. There is nothing to pity about the deaf and mute people; what will bring about change in their life is their own as well as mindset of the society.

The Society has made norms on what is acceptable and what is not for people to exercise their fundamental rights to sustain and express. People who are economically, mentally or physically disadvantaged are denied privileges of life that are taken for granted by the majority. People who are underprivileged in any area are automatically bracketed under a separate category and deprived of opportunities in employment and good living standards. Due to the lack of opportunities and basic privileges of life, some take to addictions, some undergo serve depression and most of them do not see any potential in them nor any hope for their future.

DEAF LEADERS has undertaken a project called Sign Language Development department that constitutes speech and hearing impaired members of society, who as a part of DEAF LEADERS not only bring to the forefront their unique abilities, talents and capabilities, but allow people, see the power of their own potential. DEAF LEADERS reaches out to everyone, whether they can hear or not. The programs have been designed to bring out the best in people and appreciate their own potential going beyond physical constraints.

The department has undertaken many projects to contribute the upliftment of the hearing impaired. It has started work towards following areas:

- Sign Language curriculum
- Awareness programs
- Lifeskills workshops
- Programs to empower the parents and the support group of the deaf
- English classes

There is nothing absolute or perfect in life. Every imperfection is a tool to grow.

Programme for children with hearing impairment

Deaf Leaders, an organisation working for the empowerment of those with hearing impairment in Coimbatore has undertaken a project for improving communication skills of children with hearing impairment.

The project, which includes sign language, English language and other skills development, is aimed at enabling children to realise their potential.

The organisation plans to conduct awareness programmes and life skills workshops for the parents of people with hearing impairment.

According to Mr. Murali, the project has been designed primarily to help the children get acquainted with the disability. The modules will familiarise children with the expressions used in basic communication. It will also give them an orientation towards a healthy lifestyle, relationships, family, and school.

They will also be taught concepts such as civic sense, religion, numbers, time, dates and money.

“With the world becoming increasingly competitive and technology being an integral part of life, there is a need to teach two languages to children with hearing impairment,”

The project hopes to cover at least 1,500 children from 16 schools in Coimbatore. Depending on the response from the city, it could be extended to other districts too.

The project would cost around Rs.50,000. Rotary Club of Coimbatore Texcity has partly sponsor the programme. Organisations that are interested in sponsoring the programme or schools interested in starting the programme.

Visiting the Schools. (2 to 4 pm)

1	Every Monday	Corporation School of the Deaf R.S. Puram, Coimbatore
2	Every Tuesday	Government School of the Deaf Erode
3.	Every Wednesday	Infant School of the Hearing Impaired Thekkupalaym (PO), Coimbatore- 641020
4.	Every Thursday	Others School 1. Star School of the Deaf, Coimbatore 2. Government School of the Deaf, Salem 3. Ooty / Karur // Palaghat/ Palani and other place
5.	Every Friday	CSI School of the Deaf Mettupalayam

The Measurable Outcome of the projects

- Deaf people changed their mentality and co-operated with each other to empower the deaf.
- Deaf students get motivated and are ready to go for higher education.
- Teachers are felt happy and accepted the change in teaching – Total Communication.

Leadership Training

World Disabled Day for Rotary Youth Leadership Award 08 (RYLA) program



Rotary Club of Texcity also conducted a leadership workshop called RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) for the disabled at Avinashilingam University on 6th December 2008 and joint organized by Rotary Club of Texcity, Avinashilingam University and DEAF LEADERS . The participants 120 include disabled, deaf and blind which also received very good response and talent.

We genuinely thank all involved in encouraging and assisting the children to recognize their talent.

Thiru. Col. Prof. Dr. G. Thiruvassagam, Vice Chancellor, Bharathiar University as chief guest to inaugurate the function.

Dr. Saroja Prabhakaran , Vice Chancellor, Avinashilingam University for woman as guest of honour to light the kuthuvilakku.

Rtn. MD Adv. Baby Joseph, District Governor RI District 3201 as chief guest the valedictory function

Thiru. T.K. Shanmuganandam , Chancellor, Avinashilingam University for Women as guest of hour the valedictory function

- **Leadership training**
- **Yoga**
- **Games**
- **Good Manners**
- **Dance**

Fitting Sports

Blind



Disabled



Deaf



World Disabled Day for Disabled of Cricket Trophy

2nd Coimbatore District Cricket Trophy of the Deaf & RYCA Cricket for disabled challenged 2008

Rotary club of Coimbatore Texcity in association with Deaf Leaders conducted a cricket match on December 7th to celebrate the World Disabled day. The match was conducted at forest college grounds. Blind, Deaf and dumb and the disabled participated enthusiastically and made the event a grand success.

About 100 participants from in and around Coimbatore came together and displayed their talent.

The event was a witness to lots of moments which touched hearts. The spirit in the hearts of the disabled people was really a sight, and the enthusiasm and never say die attitude with which they played the simple game of cricket is highly appreciable.

Conducting and encouraging talent like this is definitely a feather in cap for organizations like Rotary.

Chief Guest: **Rtn. M.D.R.S. Maruthi**, Samba Publishers, Coimbatore

Special Guest: **Shri. M.S. Ramamoorthy**, Territory Manger (Lubricants) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd, Coimbatore

Shri. C.G. Vittal, President , Tamil Nadu Sports Council of the Deaf

Score

1st Semi Fianl: Coimbatore Association For Deaf 58/6 15Overs lost to Youth Deaf 59/4 9Overs

2st Semi Fianl: Deaf Leaders 95/4 15Overs beat Tiruppur Sport Association for Deaf 61/6 9Overs

Fianl: Deaf Leaders 124/1 15Overs beat Youth Deaf 78/8 12Overs(D/L)

Man of the Series: Naresha Prabhu (Deaf Leaders)

**Quiz and Chess
competition**

**International Day of the Deaf
celebrate**



International Deaf Day celebrates to be on last week of September in every year. Our DEAF LEADERS is students, old students and staffs were programme in chess and quiz competition due on 28th September 2009

Inaugurate

New wing of Youth Deaf Development



Shri. V. Balasubramaniyan, Director , Avinasihlingam Jan Shikshan Sansthan has inaugurates to new wing of Youth Deaf Development due on 28th February 08

Youth Leaders as Co-onditorTeam



**Mr. Prabhu , Mr. Madan Kumar
Mr. Gowatham , Mr. Rajtalk, Mr. Libin
Ms. Devika**

- 40 youths include 15 girls joins Youth Deaf Development
- Aim to goal achieve to community
- English class tuition
- Skill & Development
- Communication to improve
- Awareness create
- Self confidence
- Need to empowerment

Women Day

Awareness on Parents of Deaf & International Women Day



DEAF LEADERS wing of Youth Deaf Development were conduct one day awareness on Parents of Deaf and International Women Day celebrates at K.D.S. Bhavan, Sai baba colony, Coimbatore on 1st March 2009.

Sri. Nasar Kamal, HRD, Keas Control System (P) Ltd, Coimbatore was as Chief Guest to inaugurate the function and lectures the leadership training to participants.

Shri. Soya MORI, Deputy Director, Poverty Alleviation and Social Development Studies Group from Japan was special guest and given the prizes distributed. He was given the training leadership about Japan Deaf Peoples.

Shri. K. Murali, Director , Deaf Leaders was lectures about “ We Must Change Now”

Shri, Prabhu, Youth Leader Team was lectures

- Youth 50 members attend the function
- Training leadership
- Thinking of Women Empower
- Discussion with Parents of Deaf
- Quiz and draw competition
- Drama about positive

Participant

Workshop on Human Rights of Disability

Discusses issues of people with disabilities

- Human Rights Law Network (HRLN), a nationwide association of lawyers and social activists dedicated to using the legal systems to advance human rights, in collaboration with CBM, an organisation that works for the disabled, recently organised a two-day training programme on ‘disability rights and the law.’
- The forum discussed current issues pertaining to disability rights and framing legal mechanisms to address various human rights violations.
- More than 50 people with disabilities from all over Tamil Nadu attended the workshop. Rajive Rathori, Deputy Director, HRLN, New Delhi, inaugurated the programme.
- The aim of the programme was to create awareness among people with disabilities about their rights and the welfare schemes implemented by the Government.
- It was held at the Karl Kubel Institute for Development Education, Coimbatore.

Deaf Leaders, an organisation for people with hearing impairment and another organisation working for people with disabilities and non- Governmental organisation, participated in the programme.

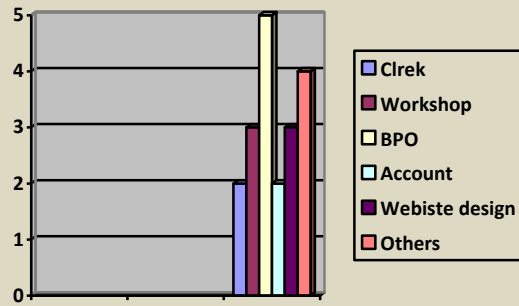
Information



*Website on
www. India Deaf News. Org*

- To many deaf people from India and International visits our websites daily and we get good responses from them.
- To information for deaf matrimonial were made available in the websites and new peoples have interests to join our website on matrimonial.

A total of 19 deaf persons were facilitated to secure jobs in difference firms.



Recommendations were given to few deaf persons to join good export companies at Tiruppur and Coimbatore.

K. Murali
Director of DEAF LEADERS