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# QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

## OCTOBER 2024-DECEMBER 2024

### SOCIETY FOR THE CARE OF BLIND



# INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND

run under the aegis of

## SOCIETY FOR THE CARE OF BLIND

### SECTOR-26, CHANDIGARH

Email: [blind\\_institute\\_chd@yahoo.com](mailto:blind_institute_chd@yahoo.com), [blind.society.chd@gmail.com](mailto:blind.society.chd@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.instituteforblind.org](http://www.instituteforblind.org)

# OFFICE BEARERS

Shri Rajeev Verma IAS  
Chief Secretary, U.T. Chandigarh  
{Ex-Officio President}



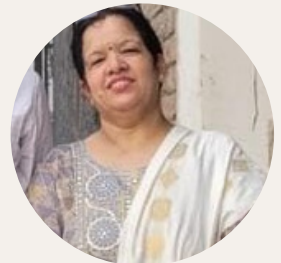
Shri Dinesh Kumar Kapila  
{Sr. Vice. President cum Chairman}



Ms. Suparna Sachdev  
{Honorary Secretary cum Manager}



Ms. Aneeta Jayara  
{Joint Secretary cum Treasurer}



# CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

**"Education is the light that shines brightest in the darkest of times."**

Society For the Care of Blind run under its aegis Institute For the Blind are always in the quest of enhancing the level and quality of their achievements and in day-to-day operations. The focus is on five pillars:

**Pillar One:** The Functions of The Society including management, administration, resource raising, outreach functions inclusive of eye camps coordination with stakeholders, liaison with volunteers, engaging counsellors

**Pillar Two:** The pursuit of excellence in academics and focusing on Information Technology as a tool, regular PTA Meetings etc. as also coordination with other Schools and maintaining our stellar record in results.

**Pillar Three:** Sports as a mode for empowerment and this includes tie ups with volunteers and the administration, we have excelled in this activity

**Pillar Four:** Extracurricular activities including debates, exposure to varied facets such as the Reserve Bank of India and Currency, interacting with school children from other schools and the like

**Pillar Five:** The upkeep and maintenance of our infrastructure and upgrading the same. This includes our transport such as buses.



As a donor driven institution, we plan and execute any initiative only after assessing the financial implications. This is a constraint too at times. We are stepping up our engagement with corporate donors (CSR Primarily) and our committed individual donors so as to ensure the flow of donations for ensuring effective consistent operations and execution of plans.

This newsletter is an effort in that direction, and we plan to bring out a quarterly newsletter highlighting the diverse nature of our activities and initiatives. We seek the continued patronage of our esteemed donors and their support.

We are thankful to the Chandigarh Administration and in particular to Shri Rajeev Verma, IAS, Chief Secretary and The Ex-Officio President of The Society for the continued support and cooperation. We are thankful to the Department of Social Welfare and the Education Department of the Chandigarh Administration as also the Dept of Sports. Their backing and support is a morale booster.

We stay committed to ensuring our students, 173 of them on strength as of now, are supported totally from uniforms, boarding and lodging, toiletries, books, transport and that no financial burden is imposed on them.

Our staff from the varied verticals is committed and faithful and fully integrated into the unique operating system and environment of The Society and The Institute.

**~Dinesh Kumar Kapila**

# HONORARY SECRETARY CUM MANAGER'S MESSAGE

**“A guiding hand lights the path to knowledge, where vision is seen through learning, not sight.”**

Our mission is driven by the unwavering belief that every individual, regardless of their challenges, deserves an equal opportunity to thrive. Our focus is not just on providing education but on fostering a holistic environment where blind students can grow, learn, and develop to their full potential.



Through our dedicated school, we offer free education, boarding, and lodging for blind students, ensuring they receive the support they need to excel academically and socially.

By offering these essential services without any financial burden, we remove barriers to access, creating a space where every student has the opportunity to succeed and build a brighter future.

Our mission goes beyond academics. We recognize the importance of emotional and social development, which is why our programs are designed to help students gain confidence, independence, and a sense of community. We provide a well-rounded education that includes not just reading and writing, but also life skills training, vocational opportunities, and extracurricular activities that encourage creativity, self-expression, and physical well-being.

The care and dedication of our team members ensure that every student is given personalized attention and support. Our vision for the future is to empower blind students, helping them achieve their dreams, pursue higher education, and integrate into society as self-sufficient and proud individuals. Through your support and involvement, we are shaping a world where blind students can envision a future filled with possibilities. Together, we are building a community where they can achieve academic excellence, gain essential life skills, and break free from the limitations of their circumstances.

We are grateful for the opportunity to be part of these young lives and remain committed to providing them with the resources, tools, and guidance they need to succeed.

The Society for the Care of the Blind is not just an educational institution—it is a family, working together to unlock the potential of every student and to create a future of hope, opportunity, and inclusion.

~Suparna Sachdev

# JOINT SECRETARY CUM TREASURER'S MESSAGE

**"Not gold, but education alone can make a person wise and strong."**

The Institute for the Blind, operating under the aegis of the Society for the Care of the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, is dedicated to providing quality education that empowers visually impaired students. The Institute not only fosters academic excellence but also focuses on holistic development—ensuring that students are physically fit, mentally agile, and emotionally resilient.



Its mission is to equip students with the confidence and courage needed to navigate life's challenges with determination. An ancient Sanskrit saying aptly underscores the unparalleled power of education: "A thief cannot steal your knowledge, a king cannot seize it, and it cannot be divided among brothers. It carries no weight, yet the more one shares it, the more it grows." At the Institute for the Blind, students are nurtured with care and diligence so that they can make meaningful contributions to society. With each passing day, the institute scales new heights, and its students bring laurels to The City Beautiful by excelling in various academic, cultural, and extracurricular activities at local and national levels. By shaping the future of its students holistically, the institute ensures that they not only flourish in their personal and professional lives but also serve as a source of inspiration for others— demonstrating that perseverance and education are the true harbingers of success.

**~Aneeta Jayara**

# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

## **Nothing is impossible; the word itself says 'I'm possible'!**

The world is full of diversity and differences, and one of the most important lessons we can learn as a society is to embrace and accommodate those differences.

Visually impaired students, just like their sighted peers, have the potential to achieve great things if given the right tools and opportunities. Advancements in technology have made it easier for visually impaired students to access information.



By creating a supportive and inclusive environment for visually impaired students, our school not only provides them with the tools and resources they need to succeed academically but also sends a powerful message to the rest of society. We show that disability is not a barrier to success and that everyone, regardless of their abilities, deserves to be treated with respect and dignity.

The school offers a perfect blend of learning opportunities that a child needs to live happily in a world governed by infotech and biotech. Let's work together to create a more inclusive and accepting world for all. Thanks to Louis Braille and his groundbreaking invention, visually impaired individuals are able to navigate the world with confidence and independence. The Braille system has given them the tools they need to succeed in school, work, and everyday life. We are grateful for Louis Braille's ingenuity and vision, and we are committed to honoring his legacy by continuing to support and empower visually impaired individuals in our school community.

**~Gursharanjit Kaur**

# INTRODUCTION

Our school was established in 1972 with a noble mission to provide quality education and a nurturing environment for visually impaired students. Over the years, we have grown into a center of excellence, dedicated to fostering independence, empowerment, and academic success for students with visual impairments.

From the outset, the founders recognized the need for specialized educational support and services to ensure that visually impaired children could thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

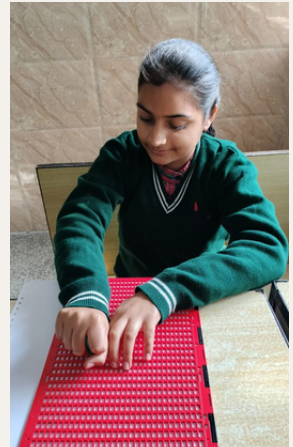


We offer a range of programs tailored to meet the unique needs of our students. These include Braille literacy, assistive technology, and specialized teaching methods designed to help students develop essential life skills and achieve their full potential. Our dedicated staff is committed to providing personalized support, ensuring that each student receives the attention and resources they need to excel.

# EDUCATION

At our institution, we are dedicated to providing quality education to visually impaired students, empowering them to excel academically and develop essential life skills. We offer a comprehensive curriculum from primary to senior secondary levels, with education up to the 12th grade. Our school is affiliated with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), ensuring that our students receive a standardized and recognized education that aligns with national academic standards.

Our approach to education is designed to meet the unique learning needs of visually impaired students. We utilize a variety of specialized teaching methods, including Braille, audio books, and other tactile learning materials, to ensure that our students have equal access to educational resources. These resources are carefully selected to enhance their learning experience and support their academic development.



In addition to Braille and audio books, we also use other teaching-learning materials (TLM), such as tactile diagrams and adaptive technologies, to ensure our students can fully engage with the curriculum. This inclusive approach helps students not only to grasp academic concepts but also to develop critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving skills, which are essential for their personal growth and future success.



# ADMISSION

We warmly welcome applications for admission to our school, where each student is given the individualized attention and support, they need to thrive. Our dedicated and trained staff work closely with students to create a nurturing and empowering environment, ensuring that every child receives the best education possible.

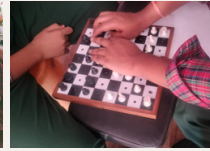
Our mission is to provide visually impaired students with the tools and opportunities to succeed academically and lead fulfilling lives, making a positive impact on their future.



We are committed to creating an inclusive and supportive environment where every visually impaired (blind) student has the opportunity to realize their full potential. Our goal is not only to provide education but to instill confidence, self-reliance, and a sense of belonging.

# SPORTS

Our school, which focuses on the holistic development of Visually Impaired students, encourages every student to participate in physical activities. We believe that engaging in sports helps develop a positive attitude and prepares them for life's challenges. Our specialized coach, with over fifteen years of experience, is dedicated to training students with visual impairments in various sports. Under their guidance, our institute has won more than 200 medals in sports competitions.



## Recent Achievements:

**Yoga:** Our students participated in the 1st Para State Yogasana Championship held in Chandigarh. Seven of our students won medals in the competition:



### Under 20 Male:

Gold: Prince Kumar  
Silver: Sunny Kumar  
Bronze: Jaseem



### Above 20 Male:

Gold: Abhishek Kumar



### Under 20 Female:

Silver: Manshi  
Bronze: Shivani  
Bronze: Dhanika

Following this success, all the winners from the state championship will participate in the 1st Para National Yogasana Championship.

# SPORTS

## ANNUAL SPORTS MEET (OCTOBER 2024)

Our school proudly hosted the Annual Sports Meet from 22nd to 23rd October 2024 at the Sports Complex, Sector 7, Chandigarh. The event was inaugurated by Shri Manish Kumar Tiwari, Member of Parliament, who motivated students to strive for excellence. The meet saw enthusiastic participation from nearly all students, featuring a variety of track and field events, including the popular matka-fod competition. The event was widely publicized, and the closing ceremony was graced by our Senior Vice President, Shri Dinesh Kumar Kapila.



# SPORTS

## 23RD NATIONAL ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIP (DECEMBER 2024)

In December 2024, our athletes showcased exceptional talent and determination at the 23rd National Athletic Championship, held from 13th to 16th December at Nadiad Sports Stadium, Gujarat. Our team clinched a remarkable total of 28 medals—8 Gold, 12 Silver, and 8 Bronze—emerging as the overall champions in the T11 Women category. This achievement is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our athletes and coaching team. Eight students (4 boys and 4 girls) represented our school under the expert guidance of Shri Rakesh Sharma, with support from Shri Sushil Kumar, Shri Surinder Kumar Sharma, and Ms. Palwinder Kaur. We are immensely proud of our students' accomplishments and remain steadfast in our commitment to nurturing their athletic potential.

### DSM Sports Event Participation (December 2024)

In December 2024, approximately 30 of our students participated in a competitive event organized by DSM Sports Chandigarh at the Sports Stadium, Sector 46, Chandigarh. This event provided an excellent opportunity for our students to demonstrate their athletic abilities and sportsmanship.



### 23वीं राष्ट्रीय एथलेटिक्स चैंपियनशिप फॉर द ब्लाइंड में चंडीगढ़ का अभूतपूर्व प्रदर्शन

चंडीगढ़ टीम के खिलाड़ी 28 पदक (8 स्वर्ण, 8 रजत और 12 कांस्य)



चंडीगढ़। सोसाइटी फॉर द केवर ऑफ़ ब्लाइंड सेक्टर 26 के खिलाड़ियों ने 13 से 16 दिसंबर तक नाडियाड, गुजरात के स्पोर्ट्स कॉम्प्लेक्स में आयोजित 23वीं राष्ट्रीय एथलेटिक्स चैंपियनशिप फॉर द ब्लाइंड में भारतीय दृष्टीहीन खेल संघ और गुजरात पैरा स्पोर्ट्स एसोसिएशन द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से आयोजित किया गया था। संस्था अपने खिलाड़ियों, समर्पित कोचिंग टीम और चंडीगढ़ के सभी समर्थकों को दिल से बधाई देती हैं, जिन्होंने इस अद्वितीय सफलता में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई। चंडीगढ़ की आठ सदस्यीय टीम, जिसमें चार लड़के और चार लड़कियां शामिल थीं, ने पुरुषों और महिलाओं की टी -11, टी -12 और टी -13 श्रेणियों में शानदार प्रतियोगिता की। संस्था के छह खिलाड़ी (4 लड़के और 2 लड़कियां), एसजीजीएस कॉलेज सेक्टर-26 चंडीगढ़ की एक लड़की और डीएवी कॉलेज सेक्टर-11 चंडीगढ़ की एक अन्य लड़की ने इस प्रतियोगिता में भाग लिया। चंडीगढ़ टीम का प्रदर्शन असाधारण था, जिसमें खिलाड़ी 28 पदक (8 स्वर्ण, 8 रजत और 12 कांस्य) के साथ वापस लौटे। इसके अलावा, महिला वर्ग टीम को टी -11 श्रेणी में प्रतिष्ठित टीम चैंपियनशिप ट्रॉफी भी प्राप्त हुई, जो बिना दृष्टि वाले खिलाड़ियों के लिए आरंभित है। यह शानदार उपलब्धि हमारे खिलाड़ियों की मेहनत और समर्पण को उजागर करती है।

## CRICKET ACHIEVEMENTS (OCTOBER 2024)

In October 2024, Sumant Poddar, a student of Class 12, participated in the Nagesh Cricket Trophy. Additionally, five of our talented girls earned spots in the National Cricket Tournament scheduled for Kochi, Kerala, in January 2025. Their achievement serves as a testament to the hard work and dedication they've invested in the sport.

# MUSIC

Our school's music department is a vibrant space dedicated to nurturing the musical talents of all students, including those with visual impairments. The department is well-equipped with a diverse range of musical instruments, providing students with ample opportunities to explore and learn.



**Participation:** Our students actively participate in numerous music programs across the Tricity, collaborating with their peers from regular schools. This participation allows them to showcase their talents and engage in the larger music community. Additionally, we are proud to take part in the prestigious state-level Kala Utsav program, where our students perform and represent the school with great pride.

The music department houses a variety of instruments, including percussion instruments, sitar, keyboard, harmonium, dol, drums, conga, octapad, electric tanpura, bansuri (flute), sankha, and sekar.

These instruments offer a comprehensive range for students to experiment with and master, fostering creativity and skill development.

## **Inclusive Learning Environment**

Our visually impaired students approach these instruments with enthusiasm and dedication, learning to play them with full zeal. The music department provides an inclusive environment where students of all abilities can immerse themselves in music, enabling them to develop both individually and as part of a group.



# MUSIC

## Music Vocal, Instrumental & Percussion

In line with the academic structure, students in classes 10th and 12th take music as a subject, with options in vocal music, instrumental music, and percussion. This allows them to formalize their passion for music while earning credits towards their education. The curriculum supports both practical learning and theoretical knowledge, ensuring a well-rounded musical education.



Ms. Lata Verma (PGT Music INS).



Mr. Labh Singh {PRT Music}

## Success Stories

Our music program has paved the way for many of our students to pursue successful careers in music. Several former students are now employed as music teachers in various Government and KB schools, spreading their love for music and inspiring the next generation. Notably, one of our alumni has gained recognition as a renowned music director, further showcasing the level of talent nurtured within our school's music program.

# LIBRARY

## A Gateway to Knowledge and Empowerment

At our institution, we take great pride in our well-equipped library, which serves as a crucial resource for the academic and personal growth of our students. Our library is home to more than 4,000 Braille books, a significant collection that enhances the knowledge of our visually impaired students and supports their educational journey.

These Braille books span a wide range of subjects, from literature and science to social studies and history, ensuring that our students have access to a diverse and comprehensive set of resources. The library not only helps in expanding their knowledge but also plays a pivotal role in upgrading their skills, fostering a love for reading, and encouraging independent learning.

The vast collection of Braille books is a testament to our commitment to providing an inclusive and empowering learning environment. By offering easy access to knowledge, we enable our students to excel academically and stay ahead in their educational pursuits, empowering them to thrive in an ever-evolving world.



# COMPUTER LAB

Our school is proud to offer a fully equipped computer lab designed to cater to the needs of visually impaired students, enabling them to excel in their studies and future careers.

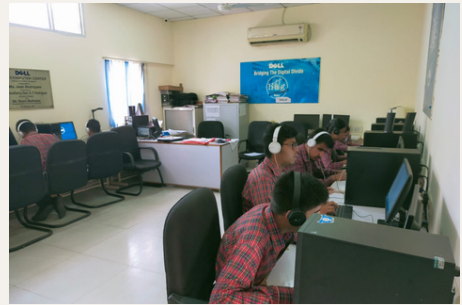
First lab is equipped with 14 computers, two printers, and a TV screen with a magnifier, all aimed at providing an inclusive learning environment. The lab also features specialized tools such as the Read It Band and Kibo, which assist students in reading ink print. This makes it easier for visually impaired students to engage with physical materials, promoting independence and participation.

All systems in Lab are preloaded with screen reader software JAWS, which provides full computer accessibility. This technology ensures that visually impaired students can perform all computer operations with ease, from browsing the internet to creating and editing documents.

## Curriculum

Students in classes 9 and 10 focus on learning HTML, while students in classes 11 and 12 advance their studies with Python programming and SQL database management, in alignment with the CBSE syllabus. This curriculum prepares our students not only to succeed academically but also equips them with essential skills for the tech-driven world.

Second lab is equipped with 9 PCs, each installed with screen reader software, allowing visually impaired students to continue their learning and development in a supportive environment.



## Success Stories

Our computer labs have contributed to the success of several students who have gone on to pursue higher education. Every year, one or two students join the BCA program to further their studies in technology. Notably, one of our alumni is currently pursuing an MCA from JNU, and another is studying BCA at Christ University, both of which are significant achievements for our school.





# VOCATIONAL TRAINING

At our school, we take pride in providing inclusive education and empowering our visually impaired students through a robust vocational training program. Our goal is to equip these special children with practical skills that enhance their independence, build their self-confidence, and prepare them for future employment opportunities. We offer a variety of hands-on activities tailored to their needs, fostering creativity and essential life skills.

## Duster Making:

A central part of our vocational training is the art of duster making. Through these activities, our visually impaired students learn the value of craftsmanship while improving their fine motor skills and attention to detail. Using their sense of touch and creative intuition, students engage in each step of the process—from gathering materials to completing the final product. This hands-on approach not only empowers them but also nurtures skills that can be applied in various fields, including the textile and crafts industries.



## Candle Making for Diwali:

Every year, as part of the Diwali celebrations, our students take part in the process of candle making. This creative activity gives them the opportunity to design and craft beautiful candles, enhancing their artistic abilities. The process involves working with different materials such as wax and dyes, which allows students to develop their tactile and sensory skills. Candle making also offers them a chance to work together, promoting teamwork and a sense of accomplishment. These candles often become part of the school's Diwali decorations, making the students' contributions even more meaningful and festive.



## Home Science:

In addition to craft-based activities, our school offers home science training as part of the curriculum prescribed by CBSE. Here, our students learn to make various kitchen items, such as simple snacks, using their enhanced tactile and sensory skills. This training helps them gain practical skills in cooking, food preparation, and kitchen management—valuable skills that can be used in their everyday lives and later, in their careers.

# MOBILITY TRAINING

At our school, we are committed to providing an inclusive and supportive learning environment for all students, including those with visual impairments. One of the key initiatives we have implemented is Mobility Training, which plays a crucial role in helping our visually impaired students lead independent and confident lives.

To ensure that our students receive the best training possible, we have a dedicated Mobility Instructor who works closely with our visually impaired students. The instructor is highly trained in providing practical and specialized mobility techniques that focus on navigation, safety, and independence.



White Cane



Ultra Sonic White Cane

# ACHIEVEMENTS

## CBSE Secondary School Examination (Class X) Results 2023-2024



1st

96:00%



2nd

92.20%



3rd

91.20%

## CBSE Senior School Certificate Examination (Class XII) Results 2023-2024



1st

88.60%



2nd

88.00%



3rd

87.40%

# AWARDS

Our society was honored with the Vibrant Vanguard Award for its outstanding contributions to the education of specially-abled children.



The Louise Braille Welfare Association for the Blind (Regd.), under the Society Registration Act (XXI of 1860) and as amended by the Punjab Amendment Act 1957, organized a national-level competition. Our school students achieved the following positions:

- Braille Writing: 1st Prize – Ms. Kafi
- Quiz Competition: 2nd Prize – Vanshika & Gajender (as a team)
- Singing Duet: 2nd Prize – Siama & Gurjot
- Classical Music (Senior): 2nd Prize – Master Jashandeep

The Running Trophy was awarded to the Institute for the Blind, Sector 26 Chandigarh, for their outstanding performance in the Skit Competition at the 55th Annual Cultural Festivities Week, part of the All India Intrastate and Interschool Cultural Competition, organized by the Cultural Society of D.A.V. Senior Secondary School, Sector 8-C, Chandigarh.



# COMMUNITY-ORIENTED INITIATIVE

## Eye Checkup Camps:

Organizing awareness programs at Community Centre Sector-42 Chandigarh.



## Preparation of Braille Literature for Welfare Activities:

- CCPCR POCSO Act in Hindi & English
- Provision of Educational Books in Braille for ex-students
- RBI Financial Literacy and Currency Awareness materials
- RBI Awareness Literature on Online Fraudsters/Modus Operandi
- Ballot Papers in Braille, ensuring equal opportunities and enabling visually impaired persons to cast votes independently.



# SOCIETY FOR THE CARE OF BLIND (REGD.) SECTOR-26, CHANDIGARH

run under its aegis

INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND  
SUPPORTED & GUIDED BY CHANDIGARH  
ADMINISTRATION & AFFILIATED TO CBSE



View of Girls' Hostel Building

Kind attention: We accept deposits only via the online mode through the SBI or ICICI Bank, the links are on the website or at the Society Office at Sector-26, Chandigarh.



**\*\* We would like to clarify that we have a single campus located at Sector-26, Chandigarh.**

