

NEWSLETTER

January 2026-June 2026

SOCIETY FOR THE CARE OF BLIND

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INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND

run under the aegis of

SOCIETY FOR THE CARE OF BLIND

SECTOR-26, CHANDIGARH

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► OFFICE BEARERS



Shri H. Rajesh Prasad, 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

► STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Ms. Prem Gridhar



Ms. Kanwaljit Kaur



Mr. Jeewan Rai Chodha



Mr. Rahul Mahajan



Mr. Rakesh Sharma

► FROM THE DESK OF THE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT CUM CHAIRMAN

It gives me immense pleasure to present this edition of our newsletter at a time when the Society for the Care of the Blind and the Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, have much to celebrate and even more to aspire towards.

The year has been marked by remarkable academic achievements. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to our students of Classes X and XII for their excellent performance in the CBSE Board Examinations. Their success is a reflection of perseverance, discipline, and determination. Particularly noteworthy is the achievement of our first Class X batch appearing in Mathematics and Science, whose commendable results testify to the dedication of both students and teachers.



These accomplishments are the result of a collective effort. I express my sincere appreciation to our faculty, administrative and support staff, whose unwavering commitment continues to nurture the potential of every student. I also acknowledge the invaluable contributions of our volunteers, donors, scribes, and parents, whose encouragement and support play a vital role in the educational journey of our students. We remain equally grateful to the Chandigarh Administration for its continued guidance and support.

While academic excellence remains a cornerstone of our mission, we are equally committed to the holistic development of our students. Throughout the year, the Institute has organized a wide range of educational, cultural, sporting, and awareness programmes aimed at building confidence, leadership, life skills, and social inclusion.

Our commitment extends beyond the campus. In collaboration with the Department of Ophthalmology, GMCH-32, Chandigarh, the Society organized a major free eye screening and check-up camp in an underserved community, benefiting more than 200 individuals. The initiative reinforced the importance of preventive eye care and highlighted the continuing need for awareness regarding eye health and early intervention.

A particularly significant milestone during the year was the celebration of 54 years of dedicated service by the Society for the Care of the Blind. The Golden Jubilee function, graced by Mrs. Sumita Misra, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Haryana, provided an opportunity to reflect on the vision of our founders, the dedication of our volunteers, and the collective efforts that have shaped the institution into a centre of excellence for the education and rehabilitation of persons with visual impairment.

As we celebrate these achievements, we also look ahead with renewed determination. Our goal remains to provide quality education, meaningful opportunities, and an inclusive environment that enables every visually impaired student to lead a confident, independent, and fulfilling life. I convey my sincere gratitude to all our well-wishers, donors, supporters, and partners who continue to stand with us in this journey. Your encouragement and guidance inspire us to strengthen our services, expand our outreach, and create a greater impact in the lives of those we serve.

Together, let us continue transforming challenges into opportunities and building a more inclusive future for all.

~Dinesh Kumar Kapila~

Academic Excellence 2025-26

The academic year 2025-26 marked a historic milestone for the students of the Institute for the Blind. On 15 April 2026, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) declared the Class X examination results, and the school proudly achieved a 100% pass result. Adding to this achievement, for the first time in the history of the institution, 6 out of 11 students successfully passed the examination with Mathematics and Science as their subjects, demonstrating that visual impairment is no barrier to pursuing and excelling in challenging academic disciplines. This remarkable accomplishment reflects the hard work, determination, and academic capability of our students, supported by the dedicated efforts of the teaching faculty.

The success story continued when CBSE declared the Class XII results on 13 May 2026. Once again, the students brought great pride to the institution by delivering an exceptional performance. The school recorded an outstanding highest score of 97.40%, setting a new benchmark of excellence and showcasing the perseverance, commitment, and academic brilliance of our learners.

These achievements reaffirm the Institute's commitment to providing quality education, fostering high academic aspirations, and creating opportunities for visually impaired students to realize their full potential and excel in every sphere of life.

CLASS X TOPPERS 2025-26



86.40%

ANSHDEEP SINGH



85.40%

SANDEEP BEHERA



85.00%

SELVAM

CLASS XII TOPPERS 2025-26



97.40%

VANSHIKA



93.40%

SAIMA



92.80%

PARAS BHARDWAJ

Dream it, Believe it, Achieve it
Vision may be unseen, but success is with our reach

► CELEBRATING 54 YEARS OF SERVICE, INCLUSION AND EMPOWERMENT

FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATION – 5 MAY 2026

The Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, functioning under the aegis of the Society for the Care of the Blind, proudly celebrated its 55th Foundation Day on 5 May 2026 with great enthusiasm and gratitude.

The occasion was graced by Mrs. Sumita Misra, IAS, Financial Commissioner Revenue and Additional Chief Secretary, Chandigarh Administration, as the Chief Guest. In her address, she lauded the Institute's outstanding contribution to inclusive education and the empowerment of visually impaired students. She emphasized the importance of building an inclusive and compassionate society and appreciated the dedicated efforts of the Society and the Institute in enriching the lives of visually impaired children over the past five decades.

The celebration commenced with a melodious welcome song, followed by a vibrant cultural programme presented by the students. Dance performances, the Foundation Day song, poetry recitations, and a special presentation on "Love You Zindagi" showcased the confidence, creativity, and talent of the students, earning appreciation from the audience.

Addressing the gathering, Sh. Dinesh Kumar Kapila, Senior Vice President cum Chairman of the Society, reflected on the remarkable journey of the institution, which began in 1972 with only five students. Today, the Institute serves approximately 155 visually impaired students, providing quality education along with free residential facilities, nutritious meals, uniforms, transportation, medical care, and rehabilitation services.

A special highlight of the programme was the participation of alumni, who shared their inspiring success stories and fond memories of their time at the Institute. Their achievements stand as a testament to the institution's lasting impact and served as a source of motivation for the current students.

The programme concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Ms. Suparna Sachdev, Honorary Secretary, who expressed sincere gratitude to the Chief Guest, members of the management committee, staff, donors, alumni, parents, volunteers, interns, and well-wishers for their continued support.

The celebrations culminated in a joyful cake-cutting ceremony involving students, alumni, and members of the management committee, symbolizing unity, achievement, and togetherness.

As the Institute enters another year of service, it remains committed to creating opportunities for visually impaired students and building a more inclusive society through education, care, and empowerment.



► NURTURING TALENT AND CREATIVITY

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE AT THE 22nd ALL INDIA BLIND BRAILLE READING & WRITING COMPETITION, NEW DELHI

Students of our school participated in the 22nd All India Blind Braille Reading & Writing Competition organized by the All-India Confederation of the Blind (AICB), New Delhi, held on 3 January 2026 at the AICB premises, Rohini, Delhi. The competition was conducted as part of the celebrations marking the 217th Birth Anniversary of Louis Braille and aimed at promoting Braille literacy among visually impaired students across the country.

The students demonstrated commendable proficiency in Braille reading and writing skills. We are proud to share that Master Daksh secured Second Prize in the English Braille Writing Competition (Class IX–XII Category), while Miss Paridhi secured Third Position in the Hindi Braille Reading Competition (Class III–V Category), bringing laurels to the institution.



DOUBLE TRIUMPH AT THE ROSE FESTIVAL 2026

During the 54th Rose Festival, Chandigarh, held from 14 to 16 February 2026, the Institute for the Blind earned two prestigious recognitions, showcasing excellence in horticulture and cultural activities.

- First Prize in the Campus Garden Competition was awarded to the Institute's garden, maintained under the dedicated care of our gardener, Shri Jatta Shankar.
- The students of the Institute secured Third Prize in the Folk Dance Competition (General Category).

The award-winning folk dance performance was choreographed and trained under the guidance of Ms. Kuljeet Kaur Sodhi, Music Lecturer. The team received a trophy, certificate, and a cash prize of ₹5,000 in recognition of their performance.



INNOVATION, INCLUSION AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

Driven by the vision of Shri Dinesh Kumar Kapila, Senior Vice President-cum-Chairman, to provide the best opportunities for students with visual impairment, the Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh,

continues to embrace innovation and emerging technologies that promote accessibility, learning, mobility, and independent living. As part of this commitment, SACC India, represented by Shri Vineet Khurana, CEO, and Shri Avnish Sharma, facilitated the visit of startups working in the field of assistive technology to the Institute. The visitors showcased a range of innovative solutions and demonstrated emerging technologies designed to enhance accessibility, communication, mobility, and independence for persons with visual impairment. The initiative

provided a valuable platform for exploring technological advancements and strengthening collaborations between the Institute and innovation partners.



STUDENTS ENTHRAL AUDIENCE AT DIVYA KALA SHAKTI



Students of the Institute participated in the Divya Kala Shakti National Level Cultural Programme held on 21 February 2026 at Sector-34, Chandigarh. The event was organized by the National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation (NDFDC) under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Government of India.

During the programme, Dr. Virendra Kumar, Hon'ble Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India, appreciated the achievements of the Institute for the Blind, run under the aegis of the Society for the Care of the Blind, and lauded its efforts towards the education, rehabilitation, and empowerment of visually impaired students. Selected students presented dance and solo singing performances, which were highly appreciated by the audience and dignitaries present at the event. The performances were prepared under the guidance of Ms. Kuljeet Kaur Sodhi (Music Lecturer) and Mr. Rajesh Kumar Arya (Music Teacher).

Around 45 students of the Institute participated in the programme along with Mr. Rakesh Sharma Principal & faculty members Ms. Anu, Mr. Ashwani Kumar, Ms. Sarita Pathak, Mr. Shiv Kumar, Ms. Neha (Intern), and attendants Mr. Sanju, Ms. Inderjeet Kaur, and Ms. Geeta. The event provided an excellent opportunity for students to showcase their artistic abilities on a national platform and interact with talented performers from across the country.

MELODIES THAT INSPIRED

The students of the Institute for the Blind showcased their musical abilities during the Annual Function of Arya Samaj Mandir, Sector 27, Chandigarh, through a group singing performance featuring patriotic and national songs. Their soulful rendition reflected the spirit of patriotism, unity, and cultural values, leaving a lasting impression on the audience.

The performance was highly appreciated by the organizers and attendees, who applauded the students for their confidence, musical excellence, and heartfelt presentation. The programme provided a valuable opportunity for the students to contribute to the cultural celebrations of the community.

STATE KALA UTSAV PRIZE DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY

The State Kala Utsav Prize Distribution Ceremony was held on 25th March 2026 at PM Shri GMSSS, Sector 18-C, Chandigarh. The Institute proudly celebrated the achievement of its student, who received a Consolation Prize for an outstanding theatrical performance based on the inspiring life of Anandibai Joshi, India's first lady doctor.

The play beautifully portrayed the determination, courage, and pioneering spirit of Anandibai Joshi, highlighting her remarkable contribution to women's education and healthcare in India. The recognition received at the State Kala Utsav reflects the student's artistic talent, dedication, and ability to bring historical narratives to life through the performing arts.

Under the able guidance of Mr. Ashwani Kumar, TGT Mathematics, the students prepared and successfully presented the play at the State Kala Utsav. His constant encouragement, guidance, and dedicated efforts throughout the rehearsals helped the students perform with confidence and excellence. This achievement is a result of the students' hard work and the dedicated mentorship of Mr. Ashwani Kumar, bringing pride and honour to the Institute.



PROMOTING INCLUSION THROUGH EQUAL PARTICIPATION

On 15 May 2026, students of the Institute for the Blind participated in an Inter-School Declamation Contest organized by Sahayta Charitable Welfare Society at St. Stephen's School, Chandigarh, as part of the observance of World No Tobacco Day. The competition was based on the theme "Unmasking the Appeal – Countering Nicotine and Tobacco Addiction" and aimed to raise awareness among young people about the harmful effects of tobacco and nicotine use. Representing the Institute, Master Sandeep Behera and Ms. Gurleen Kaur confidently expressed their views on the subject and demonstrated excellent communication and public speaking skills. Their participation highlighted the capabilities of visually impaired students and the importance of equal opportunities in academic and co-curricular activities.

Adding to the pride of the institution, Ms. Suparna Sachdev, Honorary Secretary, had the distinguished privilege of serving as a member of the judging panel for the event. The students represented the Institute with confidence and dignity, earning appreciation for their thoughtful presentations.

The event fostered inclusion, encouraged awareness on an important social issue, and promoted the participation of visually impaired students alongside their peers, reinforcing the belief that talent, knowledge, and determination know no barriers.



► SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

GIRLS SHINE AT NATIONAL CRICKET TOURNAMENT

Our girl students Dhanika, Jiya Chaubey, Tanisha, and Khushi proudly represented the Chandigarh in a National Cricket Tournament held at Bhubaneswar from 15th to 21st January 2026. The tournament provided an excellent platform for the students to showcase their sporting talent, teamwork, and competitive spirit at the national level. Throughout the event, they displayed remarkable dedication, discipline, resilience, and sportsmanship, representing the Chandigarh with confidence and pride. Their participation not only enhanced their sporting skills but also demonstrated the growing presence and achievements of visually impaired girls in the field of sports.



CELEBRATING INCLUSION THROUGH SPORTS



On 11 March 2026, students of the Institute for the Blind participated in the Inclusive Athletic Championship organized by Strawberry Fields High School, Chandigarh. The championship promoted inclusion by providing a common platform for students with diverse abilities, including visual impairment, autism, cerebral palsy, and other disabilities.

Our students participated in various track and racing events, demonstrating enthusiasm, determination, and sporting spirit. Their performances earned several prizes and accolades, bringing pride to the Institute.

The event encouraged healthy competition, fostered friendship and mutual respect, and promoted inclusivity among participants. It also provided an opportunity for students to build confidence, develop teamwork, and experience the power of sports in breaking barriers and promoting equal participation.

PROMOTING FITNESS AND ENDURANCE

On 15 March 2026, eight students of the Institute for the Blind participated in the Gedi Route Run (Half Marathon) held at the Eiffel Tower Replica, Leisure Valley, Sector 10-C, Chandigarh. The students were accompanied by Mr. Rakesh Sharma (Principal) and Mr. Martin Christo Kingsly (Faculty Member).

The participants took part in the 5-kilometre run, demonstrating determination, stamina, and sportsmanship. The event provided an opportunity for students to engage in physical fitness activities while promoting health, endurance, and self-confidence.

The run encouraged participants to embrace an active lifestyle and reinforced the importance of perseverance, teamwork, and personal well-being. The students represented the Institute with pride, making the event a memorable experience.



FRIENDLY CRICKET MATCH PROMOTES TEAM SPIRIT & CAMARADERIE

As part of its employee engagement initiatives, Teleperformance organized a friendly cricket match between its staff members and the staff of the Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, run under the aegis of the Society for the Care of the Blind.

The match was played in an atmosphere of enthusiasm and sportsmanship, providing participants with an opportunity to interact beyond their professional roles. The event encouraged teamwork, strengthened relationships, and promoted goodwill among all participants.

Such recreational activities contribute to physical well-being, strengthen community partnerships, and create opportunities for meaningful interaction. The Society appreciates the initiative taken by Teleperformance in organizing this memorable event.



PRECISION, CONFIDENCE AND TEAMWORK

The 23rd Blind Challenge Car Rally was organized in Chandigarh with the objective of promoting confidence, decision-making, orientation, and navigation skills among visually impaired participants. In this unique event, visually impaired students took on the role of navigators, guiding sighted drivers through designated routes using Braille instructions.

A total of 18 students from the Institute for the Blind participated in the rally, demonstrating teamwork, concentration, and navigational abilities. Their performance brought laurels to the institution.

We are proud to share that:

- Kripi (Class VII) secured First Prize.
- Nitika (Class XI) secured Second Prize.

Sh. Dinesh Kumar Kapila, Senior Vice President-cum-Chairman, and Sh. Rakesh Sharma Principal attended the event to encourage and boost the morale of the students.

These achievements reflect the confidence, competence, and determination of visually impaired students and highlight the importance of opportunities that foster independence and leadership. The rally showcased the capabilities of persons with visual impairment and promoted greater inclusion in society.



PARTICIPATION IN GULLY CRICKET INAUGURAL CEREMONY

On 17 April 2026, students of the Institute for the Blind, accompanied by Mr. Martin Christo Kingsly, Ms. Nirmal Kaur, and Ms. Vedangi (Intern), attended the Inaugural Ceremony of Gully Cricket held at the Cricket Ground, Sector 16, Chandigarh. The event brought together sports enthusiasts, young participants, and distinguished guests to celebrate grassroots cricket.

The occasion was graced by Sh. Nayab Singh Saini, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Haryana, along with several

eminent dignitaries, including senior police officials and administrative officers. The ceremony highlighted the importance of sports in fostering discipline, teamwork, and community engagement among youth.

The students had the opportunity to witness the inaugural proceedings and experience the vibrant sporting atmosphere. Their participation reflected the Institute's commitment to providing students with exposure to diverse sporting and community events.



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA 2026

The 12th International Day of Yoga was celebrated online by the Institute for the Blind during the summer vacation. Prior to the event, teachers sensitized students about the benefits of yoga, and practice sessions were conducted for two weeks to help them learn various yoga asanas.

To mark the occasion, students participated in Essay Writing, Slogan Writing, and Poster Making competitions. The Poster Making activity was specially organized for low-vision students, enabling them to express their thoughts on the theme of yoga and healthy living.

On the International Day of Yoga, students joined the live national yoga session led by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi from Kolkata and performed various yoga poses along with him. They also shared their photographs online as part of the celebration.

Inspired by the Prime Minister's message that "Yoga is a way of life," the Institute promotes a healthy and disciplined lifestyle through regular yoga practice. Students participate in morning yoga sessions under the guidance of the Principal and staff members. The celebration reinforced the importance of physical fitness, mental well-being, self-discipline, and holistic development.



➤ ESTEEMED VISITORS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

A VISIT OF ENCOURAGEMENT AND APPRECIATION

On 5 January 2026, the Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, had the honour of welcoming Shri Gulab Chand Kataria, Hon'ble Governor of Punjab and Administrator, Union Territory Chandigarh, to its campus.

During his visit, the Hon'ble Governor toured various facilities and interacted with students and staff members. He inspected the Braille Embosser Machine, computer laboratory equipped with screen reader software, and assistive technologies such as the Orbit Reader. He also observed orientation and mobility training sessions, including the use of the white cane, and visited the science laboratory, dining hall (mess), and boys' hostel.

The Hon'ble Governor appreciated the Institute's dedicated efforts towards providing quality education, rehabilitation services, and assistive technology support to visually impaired students. He interacted warmly with the students, encouraging them to pursue their goals with confidence and determination.

Expressing satisfaction with the infrastructure and services available on the campus, Shri Gulab Chand Kataria commended the institution for maintaining well-equipped facilities and creating a supportive learning environment for visually impaired learners. His visit served as a source of motivation and encouragement for both students and staff, reaffirming the Institute's commitment to excellence in inclusive education



LEGAL AWARENESS AND EMPOWERMENT SESSION

On 19 January 2026, the Institute for the Blind welcomed a team from the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Chandigarh, to its campus for an interactive awareness programme. The visit aimed to educate students and staff about their legal rights, entitlements, and the support mechanisms available to persons with disabilities.

During the session, the DLSA team provided valuable information on various government welfare schemes, legal aid services, and provisions under disability-related laws. The interactive discussion encouraged students to understand their rights and the avenues available for seeking legal assistance and support.

The programme proved to be highly informative and empowering, helping students gain greater awareness of their rights and promoting their confidence as informed and responsible citizens. The Institute appreciates the efforts of the DLSA team in fostering legal literacy and awareness among visually impaired learners.



VISIT OF TELEPERFORMANCE CSR TEAM

In the month of February 2026, a team from Teleperformance visited the Society for the Care of the Blind, Chandigarh, to review the ongoing CSR-supported initiatives and discuss potential projects for the forthcoming year. The visit provided an opportunity to assess the impact of existing programmes and explore avenues for further collaboration in support of visually impaired students.

During their visit, the team interacted with Mr. Dinesh Kumar Kapila, Senior Vice President-cum-Chairman, Ms. Suparna Sachdeva, Honorary Secretary, and members of the staff. Detailed discussions were held regarding the implementation of CSR-funded activities, student welfare initiatives, infrastructure development, and future plans of the institution.

The Teleperformance team appreciated the Society's dedicated efforts towards the education, rehabilitation, and empowerment of visually impaired children. They expressed satisfaction with the effective utilization of CSR support and the positive impact of various welfare programmes being carried out by the Society for the Care of the Blind.



The visit further strengthened the partnership between Teleperformance and the Society, reaffirming a shared commitment towards creating meaningful opportunities and improving the quality of life for visually impaired students.

We are deeply grateful to Teleperformance for its generous support and grant assistance extended to the Institute for the Blind and the Society for the Care of the Blind. Their valuable contribution has significantly helped in ensuring the smooth and efficient functioning of the Institute by providing support towards operational requirements as well as the strengthening of fixed assets.

The continued encouragement and commitment of Teleperformance towards the welfare and empowerment of visually impaired individuals is highly appreciated. Their support has enabled the Institute to enhance its services and create a better learning and development environment for the students. We sincerely acknowledge their contribution and express our heartfelt gratitude for their partnership in this noble cause.

A VISIT OF ENCOURAGEMENT AND APPRECIATION

The Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, had the privilege of welcoming Col. K. N. S. Chadha and Mrs. Muriel Roberts, who have extensive experience of working in remote areas of Madhya Pradesh and Ireland.

During their visit, they toured the campus and were introduced to the various educational, rehabilitation, and support services offered by the Institute. They appreciated the efforts of the Society for the Care of the Blind and the dedicated work being carried out for the education and empowerment of visually impaired students.

The visitors shared highly positive feedback and valuable suggestions, which will help the institution further strengthen its services and facilities. Their visit served as a source of

encouragement for the staff and students and reaffirmed the Institute's commitment to excellence and inclusion.



STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE WELFARE OF VISUALLY IMPAIRED STUDENTS

In a significant step towards strengthening institutional partnerships, Shri Dinesh Kumar Kapila, Senior Vice President-cum-Chairman, Society for the Care of the Blind, met Shri Krishan Sharma, Chief General Manager, State Bank of India, at the SBI Local Head Office on 4 May 2026.

During the meeting, Shri Kapila conveyed the Society's sincere appreciation for the invaluable support extended by the State Bank of India during 2025–26, particularly the sanction of a school bus that has greatly benefited visually impaired students. He also shared an overview of the Society's activities, achievements, and ongoing initiatives in the fields of education, rehabilitation, and empowerment of persons with visual impairment.



The discussion focused on exploring avenues for continued collaboration and support in the coming years to further enhance services and opportunities for visually impaired students. Shri Krishan Sharma was also cordially invited to visit the Institute for the Blind and interact with the students and staff.

As a token of respect and goodwill, Shri Kapila presented a copy of his recently published book, *Culture East and West*, to Shri Sharma.

The Society for the Care of the Blind remains deeply grateful to the State Bank of India for its continued partnership and support, which has played a vital role in advancing its mission of providing quality education, rehabilitation, and empowerment opportunities for visually impaired individuals.

BRIEFING ON THE SOCIETY AND INSTITUTE'S WORK

Sh. Dinesh Kumar Kapila, Senior Vice President-cum-Chairman of the Society for the Care of the Blind, met with Sh. Gulab Chand Kataria, Governor of Punjab and Administrator, UT Chandigarh, at Raj Bhavan. During the meeting, he presented a detailed overview of the Society's functioning, achievements, and the ongoing educational and rehabilitation initiatives of the Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh.

During the meeting, Sh. Kapila presented a copy of the book "Culture: East and West" to the Governor. The Governor appreciated the dedicated efforts being made for the welfare, education, and rehabilitation of visually impaired students.

In recognition of this commendable work, he was pleased to sanction a grant of ₹15 lakh for the purchase of Orbit Readers, modern assistive device that will significantly enhance learning opportunities for students with visual impairment



Meeting with Sh. Manish Tewari Member of Parliament (MP) Chandigarh

Sh. Dinesh Kumar Senior Vice President cum Chairman met Sh. Manish Tewari Member of Parliament (MP) and apprised him of the various programmes, activities, and developmental initiatives being undertaken by the Institute for the Blind run under the aegis of Society For the Care of Blind.

The discussions focused on strengthening support for the education, empowerment, and overall development of visually impaired students. Sh. Tewari expressed appreciation for the meaningful work being carried out by the institution and encouraged continued efforts in expanding opportunities and resources for students with visual impairment. The meeting was constructive and reflected the growing commitment of public representatives towards inclusive education and the empowerment of persons with disabilities.



VISIT BY CHITKARA UNIVERSITY DELEGATION

On 2 June 2026 Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, had the privilege of welcoming Dr. Nitin Saluja and Dr. Sunita Mehta from the Chitkara University Research and Innovation Network (CURIN). The distinguished delegation was warmly received by Sh. Dinesh Kumar Kapila, Senior Vice President-cum-Chairman, and Mrs. Aneeta Jayara, Joint Secretary, on behalf of the Society for the Care of the Blind.

During their visit, the guests held detailed discussions with the management and faculty and showed keen interest in the educational and rehabilitation services being provided by the Institute. They observed the effective use of Braille, assistive technologies, and information technology-based learning tools that support the education, mobility, skill development, and independence of students with visual impairment. The delegation appreciated the Society's dedicated efforts in empowering visually impaired children through quality education and technology-enabled interventions.

The visit also provided an excellent opportunity to

discuss future collaboration in the fields of research, innovation, assistive technology, and higher education. The management congratulated Dr. Sunita Mehta on being awarded the prestigious Fulbright-Nehru Academic and Professional Excellence Fellowship 2026–2027 and expressed appreciation for the contributions of both distinguished academicians towards advancing inclusive education. The Society looks forward to future collaborations that will further enhance educational and technological opportunities for students with visual impairment.



A HEARTFELT FAREWELL TO A VALUED PARTNER

During the month of April, the Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, had the privilege of expressing its heartfelt gratitude to Shri Arif Akhtar, General Manager (CSR), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), as he concluded his tenure.

Shri Arif Akhtar has been a steadfast supporter of the Society for the Care of the Blind and played a pivotal role in strengthening its partnership with Indian Oil Corporation Limited. Serving as a vital bridge between the Institute and IOCL, his continued support and dedicated efforts helped transform several CSR initiatives into reality.

Under his guidance and encouragement, the Institute received 51 laptops to promote digital learning among students with visual impairment, a school bus to enhance safe and accessible transportation, and support for the establishment of a solar power plant, contributing to a sustainable and technology-enabled campus. These landmark initiatives have significantly enriched the educational environment and improved the quality of

services provided to the students.

The Society for the Care of the Blind sincerely appreciates Shri Arif Akhtar's unwavering commitment to inclusive education and social responsibility. His invaluable contributions have created a lasting impact on the Institute and will continue to benefit generations of visually impaired students. The management extends its heartfelt gratitude and wishes him continued success in all his future endeavours.



MEDIA OUTREACH AND AWARENESS

The Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, was delighted to welcome Shri Deepak Arora of Channel 4 for a special media interaction aimed at highlighting the work and mission of the Society for the Care of the Blind. During his visit, he met with the management and faculty and gained a comprehensive understanding of the Institute's history, educational programmes, rehabilitation services, and initiatives focused on empowering persons with visual impairment. The visit showcased the Institute's commitment to inclusive education, assistive technology, skill development, and holistic rehabilitation. Through this media engagement, the Institute's achievements and ongoing efforts reached a wider audience, helping create greater awareness about the capabilities, aspirations, and accomplishments of visually impaired students.

SPIRITUAL JOURNEY TO KAILASH MANSAROVAR

Our Honorary Secretary, Ms. Suparna Sachdev, undertook the sacred Kailash Mansarovar Yatra with deep devotion and a special prayer for the continued growth and service of the Society for the Care of the Blind and for the bright future of our Visually impaired students.

The yatra commenced on 26 May 2026 and involved gradual acclimatization to the high-altitude terrain of Tibet. The pilgrims travelled through various cities, including Kyirong and Saga, before reaching the holy Mansarovar Lake, situated at an altitude of approximately 4,590 metres (15,060 feet) above sea level. The spiritual journey culminated in the sacred parikrama of Mount Kailash, which began on 5 June 2026.

Mount Kailash, stands majestically at an elevation of

about 6,638 metres (21,778 feet). The parikrama is considered one of the most challenging and spiritually rewarding pilgrimages in the world. On the first day, the pilgrims covered a distance of 16 kilometres through rugged mountain terrain, while the second day involved a demanding 22-kilometre trek across high-altitude passes. Despite the physical challenges, the journey was marked by faith, perseverance, and spiritual reflection.

This sacred pilgrimage served as a source of inspiration, reinforcing the values of resilience, dedication, and hope. The prayers offered at this revered site reflected the institution's commitment to empowering visually impaired students and enabling them to lead independent, successful, and fulfilling lives.



INTERACTION WITH THE HONOURABLE UNION MINISTER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

Ms. Anita Jayara, Joint Secretary of the Society for the Care of the Blind and an alumna of the Institute for the Blind, along with former Principal Mr. J.S. Jayara, had the privilege of interacting with Dr. Virendra Kumar, Honourable Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment. During the interaction, the Alumni Association highlighted the achievements of visually impaired individuals and showcased assistive technologies that support education, mobility, and independent living. Discussions also focused on skill development, employment opportunities, and career prospects for persons with visual impairments.

The Institute shared its efforts in promoting education, rehabilitation, and employment for visually impaired youth through various training

programmes, job fairs, and placement initiatives. Managed by the Society for the Care of the Blind, the Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, provides free education, boarding, lodging, transportation, and rehabilitation services to around 156 students.

The Honourable Minister appreciated the valuable work being carried out by the Society for the Care of the Blind and commended the Management Committee for its dedicated efforts in providing quality education, rehabilitation, and support services to visually impaired students. He encouraged the Society to continue its mission of empowering and promoting the inclusion of persons with disabilities in all spheres of life.

► SUPPORT RECEIVED FROM CSR PARTNERS AND DONORS

INDIAN OIL CSR INITIATIVE POWERS THE CAMPUS WITH SOLAR ENERGY

A significant milestone in the institute's journey towards sustainability was achieved on 15 January 2026 with the formal handover of a Solar Power Plant by Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme. The solar power system has been installed to promote the use of renewable energy and environmentally responsible practices on the campus.

The commissioning of the plant has enabled the institute to reduce its dependence on conventional

sources of electricity, resulting in substantial savings in energy costs while contributing to environmental conservation. This green initiative reflects the institute's commitment to sustainable development and a cleaner future.

The Management, Principal, staff, and students expressed their sincere gratitude to Indian Oil Corporation Limited for its generous support and valuable contribution towards enhancing the infrastructure and sustainability of the institution.



A GENEROUS GESTURE FOR STUDENT WELFARE

On 22 January 2026, a special ceremony was organized for the distribution of blazers to all students of the school, generously sponsored by Bharat Vikas Parishad. The event was graced by the presence of Swami Bhitiharananda Ji Maharaj, Secretary, Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Chandigarh, whose inspiring address encouraged students to pursue their goals with confidence, discipline, and determination.

The distribution of blazers brought immense joy and a sense of pride among the students. This thoughtful initiative by Bharat Vikas Parishad reflects its commitment towards the welfare, education, and holistic development of visually impaired children. The Management, staff, and students expressed their heartfelt gratitude to Bharat Vikas Parishad and Swami Bhitiharananda Ji Maharaj, for their encouragement, generosity, and continued support towards the institution and its students.



PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT

On 11 February 2026, a Dona Making Machine was inaugurated at the campus of the Institute For the Blind run under the aegis of Society for the Care of the Blind. The machine was generously donated by Golden Lioness District A2, Chandigarh, with the objective of promoting eco-friendly alternatives to plastic and encouraging environmental sustainability.

A unique feature of this initiative is the innovative use of discarded Braille paper generated by visually impaired students. The recycled Braille paper is utilized to manufacture eco-friendly paper plates and donas, transforming waste into useful products while promoting environmental conservation. The project also provides valuable vocational training and skill development opportunities for students, helping them gain practical experience and enhance their self-reliance.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by the presence of District President Lioness Lalita Bhola, District Secretary GLS Rajinder Sehdev, District Treasurer GLS Renu Bansal, Cabinet PRO Paramjeet Grewal, and Lioness Asha Kahlon. The Management, staff, and students expressed their sincere gratitude to Golden Lioness District A2, Chandigarh, for their generous contribution and continued support towards the empowerment of visually impaired students.



ENHANCING ACCESSIBILITY THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

On 7 March 2026, the Inner Wheel Club Mohali Blissful donated a Meta AI Ray-Ban Smart Glasses to the institution, reinforcing its commitment to supporting inclusive education and empowering visually impaired students through technology.

This innovative assistive device offers advanced AI-enabled features that can assist users in reading text, identifying objects, and gaining better awareness of their surroundings. The smart glasses will provide students with an opportunity to experience cutting-edge assistive technology, helping them enhance their learning, mobility, and independence in daily life.

The donation reflects the club's dedication towards

promoting accessibility, inclusion, and equal opportunities for visually impaired learners. The Management, staff, and students expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the Inner Wheel Club Mohali Blissful for this thoughtful contribution towards the educational and personal development of the students.



DRIVING EDUCATION FORWARD: SCHOOL BUS DONATION BY IOCL

On 12 March 2026, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, generously provided a school bus to the Institute for the Blind, Sector-26, Chandigarh. This significant contribution has greatly strengthened the institute's transportation infrastructure and enhanced accessibility for visually impaired students.

The school bus ensures a safe, comfortable, and reliable mode of transportation for students commuting to and from the institute. This initiative has contributed to improved attendance, greater participation in academic and co-curricular activities, and enhanced access to educational opportunities.

The provision of the school bus reflects IOCL's commitment to promoting inclusive education, social responsibility, and the empowerment of persons with disabilities. The Management, staff, students, and parents expressed their sincere gratitude to Indian Oil Corporation Limited for its continued support and valuable contribution towards the welfare and development of visually impaired students.



EMPOWERING VISUALLY IMPAIRED STUDENTS THROUGH SMART ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

On 21 May 2026, the Institute for the Blind, Sector-26, Chandigarh, received a generous donation of 11 Smart Eye Glasses from the Inner Wheel Club Chandigarh. The assistive devices were distributed to deserving students during a special programme organized in the school campus, marking another significant step towards enhancing accessibility and inclusive education.

These smart glasses are equipped with advanced features that support visually impaired individuals in reading, accessing information, navigation, and performing daily activities with greater independence. The technology will enable students to utilize modern assistive tools, thereby enhancing their learning experience, confidence, and participation in academic and social life.

The programme was graced by Mrs. Pooja Goyal, District Chairman, along with other esteemed members of the Inner Wheel Club Chandigarh. Students warmly welcomed the guests through musical performances, showcasing their talents and enthusiasm. The guests appreciated the achievements of the students and commended the Institute's continuous efforts in providing quality education, rehabilitation, and opportunities for holistic development.

The Institute expressed its sincere gratitude to the Inner Wheel Club Chandigarh for this thoughtful contribution. The donation reflects a strong commitment towards promoting accessibility, inclusion, and the empowerment of visually impaired students. By providing access to innovative assistive technology, this initiative will help students become more independent, confident, and better equipped to thrive in an increasingly digital world.



Enhancing Independent Mobility Through Smart Cane Donation

The Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, was privileged to welcome a team from Insightsoftware Ltd., who generously donated 24 Smart Canes to support the mobility, safety, and independence of visually impaired students.

A live demonstration of the Smart Canes was conducted by Mr. D. P. Pathak and Ms. Sarita Pathak along with the students, highlighting the role of assistive technology in enabling safe navigation and enhancing independent movement.

On the occasion, Shri Dinesh Kumar Kapila, Senior Vice President-cum-Chairman, welcomed the visiting team and expressed sincere gratitude for their thoughtful contribution. He also shared an overview of the Society's educational and rehabilitation initiatives and emphasized the importance of modern assistive technologies in empowering persons with visual impairment.

The visiting team also toured the campus and

interacted with students and faculty, gaining insights into the institution's efforts towards inclusive education and holistic development.

The Society for the Care of the Blind sincerely appreciates the support extended by Insightsoftware Ltd. and acknowledges its valuable contribution towards promoting accessibility, independence, and inclusion for visually impaired students.



► ACHIEVEMENTS, AWARDS & RECOGNITION

77th Republic Day Celebrated with Patriotic Zeal

The 77th Republic Day was celebrated with great patriotism and enthusiasm at the Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh. The programme commenced with the unfurling of the National Flag by Shri Dinesh Kumar Kapila, Chairman-cum-Senior Vice President of the Society for the Care of the Blind, followed by the National Anthem.

Students presented patriotic songs, including Jhanda Geet, Saare Jahaan Se Achha, and Insaaf Ki Dagar Par, reflecting their love and respect for the nation. Ms. Vanshika delivered an inspiring speech highlighting the significance of the Constitution and the values of democracy, equality, and unity. The cultural presentations were prepared under the guidance of Ms. Kuljit Kaur Sodhi and Mr. Rajesh Kumar Arya.

On this occasion, the management honoured long-standing supporters Mrs. Payal Takiar, Mr. Akashdeep Singh, and Mrs. Amrita Kaur for their continued support and commitment to the institution. Mr. Sham Lal was also felicitated for his dedicated services. Appreciation Certificates were presented to Mr. Surender Kumar Sharma, Mr. K. D. Sharma, Mr. Pankaj Sharma, and Mr. Ramesh Chand in recognition of their sincere contribution towards the welfare and development of visually impaired students.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Dinesh Kumar Kapila emphasized the importance of Republic Day and urged students to uphold the values enshrined in the Constitution. He encouraged them to become responsible citizens, remain disciplined, respect diversity, and contribute positively towards building a strong, inclusive, and progressive nation. He also highlighted the institution's achievements in academics, sports, music, technology, and rehabilitation services, appreciating the collective efforts of staff, students, donors, and well-wishers.

The programme concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Ms. Suparna Sachdev, Honorary Secretary, who expressed gratitude to the management, staff members, students, donors, and supporters for their invaluable contribution. The celebration served as a reminder of our constitutional responsibilities and inspired everyone to work towards the empowerment of persons with visual impairment and the progress of the nation.



Recognition On International Women's Day

On the occasion of International Women's Day 2026, Ms. Suparna Sachdev, Honorary Secretary, Society for the Care of the Blind, was honoured for her dedicated contributions towards the welfare, education, and empowerment of persons with visual impairment.

The recognition was conferred by Sh. Jatinder Pal Malhotra, State President, BJP Chandigarh, in acknowledgment of her commitment to social service and her efforts in promoting inclusive opportunities for visually impaired individuals.

This honour reflects the Society's continued dedication to empowering persons with disabilities and creating an inclusive environment where every individual is encouraged to achieve their full potential. Such recognitions serve as an inspiration to continue working with commitment and compassion towards the welfare and development of society.



Honoured for Contribution to Inclusive Education

Ms. Suparna Sachdev, Honorary Secretary, Society for the Care of the Blind, was honoured by Nayab Singh Saini during the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam programme in recognition of her dedicated efforts towards promoting education for girls with disabilities and the welfare of children with visual impairment.

The event celebrated the achievements of women from various fields who have made significant contributions to society. This recognition reflects Ms. Sachdev's commitment to inclusive education

and the empowerment of children with disabilities.



Honoured by Chandigarh Administration

The institution felt immensely proud as Ms. Kuljit Kaur Sodhi, Music Lecturer, was honoured by the Department of Social Welfare, Women and Child Development, Chandigarh Administration, on the occasion of International Women's Day. She received this prestigious recognition from the Chief Guest, Gulab Chand Kataria, in appreciation of her outstanding services in the field of education and welfare of visually impaired students.

Ms. Sodhi has consistently demonstrated exceptional dedication towards the holistic development of students through music



education, cultural activities, and mentoring. Her tireless efforts, compassionate approach, and commitment to the welfare and empowerment of visually impaired children have brought laurels to the institution and positively impacted the lives of numerous students. This recognition by the Chandigarh Administration stands as a testament to her exemplary service and reflects the institution's continued commitment to excellence in education and student welfare.



International Women's Day Celebration

On the occasion of International Women's Day, celebrated on 8 March 2026, the school management honoured and appreciated all women staff members for their dedication, commitment, and invaluable contribution towards the growth and development of the institution. As a token of respect and gratitude, they were felicitated with gifts in recognition of their sincere efforts and service. The celebration served as a meaningful occasion to acknowledge the vital role played by women employees in nurturing and empowering visually impaired students and contributing to the overall progress of the institution.



► HEALTH CHECK-UP AND WELLNESS INITIATIVE

Preventive Health Screening Camp

A Health Screening Camp was organized at the Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, by Government Medical College and Hospital (GMCH), Sector 16, Chandigarh, for students above 15 years of age.

A fully equipped medical van, accompanied by a team of qualified doctors and healthcare professionals, visited the institution and conducted comprehensive health screenings. The camp included Tuberculosis (TB)



screening and diabetic tests to assess the health status of the students and facilitate early detection of potential health concerns.

The initiative played an important role in promoting preventive healthcare awareness among students and underscored the significance of regular medical check-ups. The institution appreciates the efforts of the GMCH, Sector 32, Chandigarh team in ensuring the well-being and health of its students through this valuable outreach programme.



► SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS & FESTIVITIES

Lohri Celebration

The festival of Lohri was celebrated with great joy and enthusiasm on 13 January 2026 at the Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh. The celebration commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the Lohri bonfire by Shri Dinesh Kumar Kapila, Chairman-cum-Senior Vice President of the Society for the Care of the Blind.

The occasion was graced by the presence of Ms. Suparna Sachdev, Honorary Secretary, Ms. Aneeta Jayara, Joint Secretary and Mr. Rakesh Sharma, Principal. Their presence added warmth and significance to the festivities.

All staff members and students gathered around the bonfire and offered prayers for prosperity, happiness, and well-being. Adding to the festive spirit, Ms. Kuljit Kaur Sodhi, Music Lecturer, led the students in singing traditional Lohri songs, creating a vibrant and joyful atmosphere on the campus. Students and staff enthusiastically participated in the celebrations and enjoyed

groundnuts, sweets, and other traditional festive delicacies.

The celebration provided an opportunity for students to experience and appreciate the rich cultural heritage associated with the festival. It fostered cultural values, unity, and a strong spirit of togetherness among all present, making the occasion memorable and meaningful for everyone.

The programme concluded on a cheerful note, leaving behind cherished memories and reinforcing the importance of preserving and celebrating our cultural traditions.



Holi Celebration

The festival of Holi was celebrated with great joy, enthusiasm, and vibrant colours on 3 March 2026 at the Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh. The celebration brought together

students, teaching staff, non-teaching staff, and members of the management in an atmosphere of happiness, unity, and festivity.

The occasion was graced by Ms. Suparna Sachdev, Honorary Secretary, who joined the students and staff in the celebrations and conveyed her warm wishes to everyone. She emphasized the importance of festivals in strengthening social bonds, promoting harmony, and fostering a spirit of togetherness among all members of the institution.

Students enthusiastically participated in the celebrations, enjoying the festive atmosphere and interacting with their peers and teachers. The campus resonated with laughter, music, and cheer as everyone came together to celebrate the festival in a safe, inclusive, and joyful manner.

The Holi celebration served as an opportunity to promote the values of friendship, unity, and mutual respect. The event concluded on a happy note, leaving students and staff with cherished memories and reinforcing the spirit of love, harmony, and cultural togetherness.



Farewell Programme For Outgoing Students

A heartfelt Farewell Programme was organized on 6 February 2026 for the outgoing students of Class XII. The programme was thoughtfully planned and hosted by the students of Class XI to bid a warm farewell to their seniors and celebrate their journey at the institution.

The event was graced by the presence of Shri Dinesh Kumar Kapila, Senior Vice President cum Chairman, Ms. Suparna Sachdev Honorary Secretary; Ms. Aneeta Jayara, Joint Secretary, Ms. Prem Girdhar & Mr. Jeewan Rai Chodha, Standing committee Member, Dr. Savita Gulati, Social Worker; Mr. J. S. Jayara, Former Principal; along with teaching and non-teaching staff members.

The programme featured a variety of cultural presentations, including songs, dances, and poetry recitations, which made the occasion vibrant and

memorable. Students shared their experiences, cherished memories, and expressed gratitude towards their teachers and the institution for the guidance and support received over the years.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Dinesh Kumar Kapila extended his blessings and best wishes to the outgoing students for a bright and successful future. He encouraged them to pursue higher education with confidence, determination, and integrity. Reassuring the students of the institution's continued support, he emphasized that the Society for the Care of the Blind would always stand by them and provide guidance, mentorship, and assistance whenever required during their higher studies and future endeavours.

Ms. Suparna Sachdev, Honorary Secretary, also motivated the students to remain focused on their goals, work hard, and make meaningful contributions to society. She encouraged them to face future

challenges with courage and confidence while upholding the values they had learned at the institution.

The management, teaching staff, and non-teaching staff conveyed their heartfelt blessings and good wishes to the outgoing students, wishing them

success, happiness, and fulfilment in all their future pursuits.

The programme concluded on an emotional yet inspiring note, strengthening the bond between the students and the institution and leaving everyone with cherished memories of their time together.



► LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Participation In Model United Nations (mun) Conference



On 25 January 2026, thirteen students from the Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, accompanied by faculty members Ms. Sarita and Mr. Shiv Kumar, participated in a Model United Nations (MUN) Conference organized by the Chandigarh Group of Colleges.

The conference focused on the theme, “The Impact of Digitalization on Education for Students with Disabilities.” During the deliberations, the students actively engaged in discussions and presented thoughtful perspectives on accessibility, assistive technologies, inclusive digital learning platforms, and policy measures required to ensure equitable educational opportunities for students with disabilities in the digital age.

The event provided a valuable platform for students to develop their communication, public speaking, critical

thinking, and leadership skills while participating in meaningful discussions on contemporary educational issues. Their confident participation and well-articulated viewpoints were widely appreciated and reflected the institution's ongoing efforts to empower students through exposure to academic, intellectual, and leadership-oriented forums.

The experience proved to be both enriching and inspiring, broadening the students' understanding of global issues and strengthening their confidence to contribute effectively to discussions on inclusive education and social development.

Educational Visit To Sukhna Lake And Le Corbusier Centre

As part of the Eco Club activities, an educational visit was organized on 6 March 2026 for 30 students, comprising 15 boys and 15 girls. The excursion aimed to provide experiential learning opportunities and enhance students' understanding of environmental conservation, biodiversity, and the heritage of Chandigarh.

The students first visited the wetland area of Sukhna Lake, an important ecological habitat known for its rich biodiversity and seasonal migratory birds. During the visit, students learned about the significance of wetlands in maintaining ecological balance, supporting wildlife, conserving water resources, and sustaining biodiversity. They were also introduced to the phenomenon of bird migration and gained knowledge about various migratory bird species that visit Sukhna Lake during the winter season from different parts of Central Asia and other regions. The visit sensitized students to the importance of environmental conservation and the protection of natural habitats.

The group subsequently visited the Le Corbusier Centre, where they explored the history, planning, and development of Chandigarh. Through informative presentations and guided interactions, students learned about the vision of the renowned architect Le Corbusier and his contribution to designing Chandigarh as India's first planned city after Independence. They gained valuable insights into the city's unique sector-based planning, architectural principles, urban design, and cultural heritage.

The educational visit proved to be an enriching learning experience, combining environmental awareness with historical and architectural knowledge. It encouraged students to appreciate the importance of sustainable development, conservation of natural resources, and the visionary planning that has made Chandigarh a model city. The visit also provided students with an opportunity to learn beyond the classroom through direct observation and interaction with their surroundings.



STUDENTS SHOWCASE TALENT AT TELEPERFORMANCE STAR AWARD FUNCTION

On 9th March 2026, a group of students from the Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, visited Teleperformance to participate in a special Star Award Function organized by the company.

During the programme, the students captivated the audience with their melodious musical performances, showcasing their talent, confidence, and dedication. Their presentations were warmly received and highly appreciated by the gathering, earning enthusiastic applause and admiration from the attendees.

The event provided an excellent platform for students to demonstrate their artistic abilities,

interact with professionals, and gain exposure beyond the school environment. Such opportunities play a significant role in enhancing self-confidence, encouraging social inclusion, and promoting the abilities and achievements of visually impaired students.

The visit was a memorable and enriching experience for the students and reflected the institution's ongoing efforts to provide meaningful exposure and opportunities for holistic development. The appreciation received from the audience made the occasion a matter of great pride for both the students and the institution.



FAREWELL EXCURSION TO KASALI FOR OUTGOING STUDENTS

To celebrate the successful completion of their school journey, the Management of the Society for the Care of the Blind organized a memorable excursion to Kasali, Himachal Pradesh, on 5 April 2026 for the outgoing Class XII students of the academic session 2025–26.

The trip provided students with an opportunity to relax, bond with their peers, and create lasting memories before embarking on the next phase of their lives. Various recreational activities, games, and musical programmes were specially organized

under the guidance of Ms. Suparna Sachdev, Honorary Secretary, whose thoughtful efforts made the outing enjoyable and memorable for the students. The students also relished the hospitality extended during the visit, including breakfast, lunch, tea, snacks, and other refreshments throughout the day.

Beyond recreation, the excursion served as a meaningful occasion for reflection and celebration of the students' achievements and shared experiences. As the day drew to a close, the atmosphere became emotional as the students prepared to bid farewell to

the hostel and school life that had been an integral part of their lives for nearly twelve years.

During the interaction session, students shared cherished memories of their time at the institution and expressed heartfelt gratitude to the management, teachers, hostel staff, and all those who had guided, nurtured, and supported them throughout their educational journey. They also conveyed their determination to pursue higher

education, achieve their aspirations, and emerge as confident, independent, and responsible citizens despite visual impairment.

The excursion concluded on a memorable note, strengthening the bond between the students and the institution and marking the beginning of a new chapter in their lives filled with hope, ambition, and opportunities.



VISIT TO SHRIMAD BHAGWAT KATHA SATSANG

On 13th April 2026, a group of 22 students, comprising 13 girls and 9 boys, participated in the Shrimad Bhagwat Katha Satsang (Pundreek Goswami Smagam) accompanied by two teachers and three non-teaching staff members.

The students attentively listened to the spiritual discourse and gained valuable insights into the teachings of righteousness, devotion, discipline, compassion, and moral values. The serene and devotional atmosphere left a positive impact on the

students and contributed to their moral and spiritual development.

The programme was organized by Mr. Rahul Mahajan, Standing Committee Member. A special highlight of the event was the presence of Jaya Kishori Ji, whose devotional bhajans added to the spiritual charm of the programme. The students thoroughly enjoyed her soulful performances, making the visit a memorable and enriching experience.



STUDENT ATTEND “LIVELIHOOD ON WHEELS” EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME

On 21 April 2026, students of the Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, attended the inspiring “Livelihood on Wheels” programme organized by Saksham Punjab. The event focused on empowerment, rehabilitation, and promoting self-reliance among persons with disabilities.

The programme was graced by several distinguished dignitaries, including Shiv Bhola, Swami Vishwanath, Narendra, Madhvi Kataria, and Dr. Vipin Kaushal.

A key highlight of the event was the distribution of

motorized tricycles to ex-servicemen and sportspersons with disabilities, aimed at enhancing their mobility, independence, and quality of life. The programme showcased inspiring examples of resilience and determination, encouraging students to pursue their goals with confidence and self-belief.

The event proved to be an enriching experience for the students, reinforcing the values of self-reliance, inclusion, and empowerment while highlighting the importance of creating an accessible and equitable society for all.



EDUCATIONAL MOVIE OUTING FOR STUDENTS

The students of the Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, enjoyed a special movie outing at PVR, where they watched the acclaimed Punjabi film Rab Da Radio. The screening provided students with a unique recreational and cultural experience, allowing them to enjoy quality cinema in an engaging and inclusive environment.

The students thoroughly appreciated the film's captivating storyline, emotional depth, and entertainment value. The outing offered a refreshing break from routine activities and contributed to their social and cultural enrichment.

The visit was conducted under the guidance and supervision of Ms. Suparna Sachdev, Honorary Secretary, and Mr. Rakesh Sharma, Principal, ensuring the safety, comfort, and well-being of the students. The programme



was organized under the visionary leadership of Shri Dinesh Kumar Kapila, Senior Vice President cum Chairman, whose continued support enables students to participate in such enriching experiences.

The outing proved to be a memorable and enjoyable experience, leaving the students with cherished memories and renewed enthusiasm.

► COLLABORATIVE OUTREACH PROGRAMMES FOR WELFARE AND INCLUSION

TRIANGULAR CRICKET TOURNAMENT FOR BLIND WOMEN – 2026

The Triangular Cricket Tournament for Blind Women – 2026 was successfully organized on 7–8 February 2026 at GMSSS, Sector-26, Chandigarh, by the Cricket Association for the Visually Challenged Persons, Chandigarh, in collaboration with the Institute for the Blind, under the aegis of the Society for the Care of the Blind. The tournament witnessed enthusiastic participation and showcased the remarkable talent, resilience, and sporting spirit of visually impaired women cricketers.

The event served as a significant platform for promoting inclusive sports and women's empowerment, highlighting the determination, confidence, and sportsmanship of blind women athletes. The closing ceremony was graced by Ms. Naaznin Shaffa Tewari as the Chief Guest. The programme was skillfully anchored by Ms. Samriti Jayara, while Mr. Rohit Bhatia provided live match commentary. The Vote of Thanks was delivered by Ms. Anu.

The organizers expressed their sincere gratitude to Dinesh Kumar Kapila and Suparna Sachdev for their visionary leadership, guidance, and unwavering support, which contributed significantly to the successful conduct of the tournament.



FREE EYE SCREENING AND AWARENESS CAMP AT NEW INDIRA COLONY, MANIMAJRA

As part of its ongoing commitment to community welfare and blindness prevention, the Society for the Care of the Blind organized a Free Eye Screening and Check-up Camp at the Community Centre, New Indira Colony, Manimajra, Chandigarh.

Conducted in collaboration with the Department of Ophthalmology, Government Medical College and Hospital (GMCH), Chandigarh, and with the support of Mrs. Suman Amit Sharma, Deputy Mayor, Chandigarh, and Councillor, Ward No. 4, Manimajra, the camp benefited approximately 210 patients from New Indira Colony and nearby areas. Free medicines were distributed to all patients by the Society.

Following medical examinations, 10 patients were identified for cataract surgery and further treatment at GMCH-32, while 80 patients were recommended for free spectacles.

The camp formed part of the Society's regular outreach initiatives aimed at raising awareness about the prevention of blindness and extending eye-care services to underserved communities. Through such programmes, the Society also supports economically weaker sections by facilitating treatment, medicines, spectacles, and cataract surgeries.

The presence of Shri Dinesh Kumar Kapila, Senior Vice President-cum-Chairman, Ms. Suparna Sachdev, Honorary Secretary, Mrs. Prem Girdhar, Member, Mr. Rakesh Sharma, Principal, and other staff members reflected the Society's strong commitment towards community welfare, blindness prevention, and service to the underprivileged.

The Society expressed its gratitude to Dr. Suresh Kumar, Head, Department of Ophthalmology, GMCH-32, along with the team of doctors, optometrists, technical staff, and volunteers for their dedicated services and valuable support. Appreciation was also extended to all donors, supporters, and community members whose cooperation contributed to the success of the camp.

The programme reaffirmed the Society's commitment to promoting eye health, preventing avoidable blindness, and improving access to quality healthcare services for all.



EMPOWERING THROUGH SPORTS: BLIND MEN'S BILATERAL CRICKET TOURNAMENT 2026

The Society for the Care of the Blind firmly believes that the holistic development of visually impaired students extends beyond academics. Alongside quality education, the Society actively promotes sports, cultural activities, life skills, and leadership opportunities that help students build confidence, independence, and self-esteem.

A remarkable example of this commitment was the Blind Men's Bilateral Cricket Tournament 2026, organized by the Cricket Association for the Visually Challenged Persons, Chandigarh, in collaboration with the Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, under the aegis of the Society for the Care of the Blind. The tournament brought together talented visually impaired cricketers from Chandigarh and Delhi, providing them with an opportunity to showcase their sporting skills, teamwork, determination, and competitive spirit.

The inaugural ceremony was graced by Sh. Vikramjeet Singh Dhillon, Zonal Head – Branch Banking, IndusInd Bank, as the Chief Guest. In his address, he appreciated the efforts

being made to promote sports among visually challenged persons and encouraged the players to pursue their goals with confidence and determination.

The event was also attended by Shri Dinesh Kumar Kapila, Chief Patron of the Cricket Association for the Visually Challenged Persons and Senior Vice President cum Chairman, Society for the Care of the Blind, who emphasized the vital role of sports in empowering visually impaired individuals. He highlighted how cricket fosters confidence, leadership, teamwork, discipline, and social inclusion among players.

More than a sporting competition, the tournament was a celebration of courage, resilience, and human potential. It demonstrated how sports can transform lives by providing visually impaired individuals with opportunities to excel, compete, and gain recognition.

Through such initiatives, the Society continues to create an inclusive environment where visually impaired students are encouraged to explore their abilities, overcome challenges, and develop into confident and independent individuals. These experiences equip them not only for academic success but also for meaningful participation in society and a fulfilling future.



► AWARENESS, ADVOCACY & COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

NATIONAL VOTERS' DAY OBSERVANCE: PROMOTING DEMOCRATIC VALUES AND CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY

The Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, observed National Voters' Day on 24 January 2026 with the aim of fostering civic awareness and promoting democratic values among students and staff.

On this occasion, Mr. J. S. Jayara, State Icon for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), U.T. Chandigarh, visited the school and addressed the gathering. During the programme, he administered the Voters' Pledge to students and staff members, encouraging them to uphold democratic principles and exercise their voting rights responsibly.

In his address, Mr. Jayara emphasized the significance of National Voters' Day and highlighted the importance of active participation in the electoral process. He motivated the students to become informed, responsible, and socially conscious citizens who contribute positively to the strengthening of democracy.

Mr. Jayara also shared detailed information about the various facilities and inclusive measures provided by the Election Commission of India for persons with disabilities. He explained the provisions aimed at ensuring accessible and barrier-free participation in the electoral process, including voter registration assistance, accessible polling

stations, transportation support, wheelchair facilities, Braille-enabled voter information, and other voter-friendly initiatives designed to facilitate independent and dignified voting for persons with disabilities.

The programme served as an enriching and informative experience, creating awareness about electoral participation, accessibility, and citizens' rights and responsibilities. It reinforced the importance of inclusion and equal participation in democratic processes, while instilling a strong sense of civic responsibility among the students.



RECOGNITION FOR COMMITMENT TO E-WASTE RECYCLING

The Society for the Care of the Blind was honoured with a Certificate of Recognition under the RecycleGiri Champion Initiative by Karo Sambhav for its contribution to responsible e-waste management and environmental sustainability.

The certificate was presented by Mr. Rohit Kumar, Director & CEO, Global Youth Federation, India, in recognition of the institution's efforts towards promoting eco-friendly practices and responsible disposal of electronic waste.

During the financial year 2025–26, the Society contributed to the recycling of 141.95 kg of e-waste, demonstrating its commitment to environmental conservation and the promotion of a circular economy. This recognition reflects the institution's continued efforts to foster sustainability and environmental responsibility within the community.



A MEANINGFUL GIFT OF ART AND INSPIRATION

The Institute for the Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh, had the privilege of welcoming Col. Navdeep Multani, an Army veteran and renowned photography enthusiast, to its campus.

During his visit, Col. Multani presented six beautifully framed photographs to the institution. The photographs, reflecting creativity, resilience, and the beauty of visual storytelling, were received by Shri Dinesh Kumar Kapila, Senior Vice President-cum-Chairman, and Ms. Suparna Sachdev, Honorary Secretary. The occasion also provided an opportunity to share insights into the institution's educational and rehabilitation initiatives for visually impaired students.

The thoughtful contribution added a special touch to the campus environment and was deeply appreciated by the Society. The visit served as a meaningful reminder of how art can inspire, connect people, and enrich lives.

The Society for the Care of the Blind expresses its sincere gratitude to Col. Navdeep Multani for his generous gesture and continued support towards the cause of empowering persons with visual impairment.



► DEDICATED HANDS

MR. JATTA SHANKAR: THE GREEN GUARDIAN OF OUR CAMPUS

Mr. Jatta Shankar joined the Institute in 1989 as a Gardener and has been serving the institution with unwavering dedication ever since. For more than three decades, he has worked tirelessly to maintain and beautify the campus, creating a pleasant and refreshing environment for students, staff, and visitors. Through his hard work, expertise, and passion for gardening, the Institute's gardens have earned recognition at various prestigious events. Under his care, the school has won several accolades at the Chandigarh Rose Festival, including honors among the Best School Gardens in the city. Mr. Shankar takes great pride in nurturing every plant and flower with care and attention.



His efforts ensure that the campus remains green, clean, and aesthetically appealing throughout the year, contributing significantly to the positive atmosphere of the Institute. Known for his sincerity, discipline, and strong work ethic, Mr. Shankar performs his duties with remarkable commitment. The Institute deeply values his long years of dedicated service and celebrates his outstanding contribution to making the campus a place of beauty and inspiration.

MR. JAGDISH BHATT: SERVING WITH CARE, COOKING WITH HEART

Mr. Jagdish Bhatt joined the Institute in 2000 as an Assistant Cook at the young age of 18. Through his hard work, sincerity, and dedication, he was promoted to the position of Cook and has been serving the Institute with commitment for more than two decades. The Society provides breakfast, lunch, and dinner to its visually impaired students every day. Mr. Bhatt plays a crucial role in ensuring that these meals are prepared hygienically, nutritiously, and with the warmth of a home kitchen. His attention to cleanliness and quality has earned the trust of students and staff alike. Apart from his regular duties, Mr. Bhatt is always willing to accommodate the special food preferences and requirements of students whenever possible. His caring attitude reflects his deep concern for the well-being and comfort of every child. Known for his discipline, reliability, and positive work ethic, Mr. Bhatt performs his responsibilities without complaint and with utmost sincerity. His long years of dedicated service have made him an invaluable member of the Institute family and a source of inspiration for all.



► SUPPORT OUR CAUSE

Your generous donation helps us provide inclusive education and accessible resources to visually impaired students.

Scan the QR code to contribute and make a difference today!

Appeal: After paying online, please let us know your name, address, etc., so that an official donation receipt can be sent to you.

Email us at: blind_institute_chd@yahoo.com and message/WhatsApp us at: 6239281766, 9023890869.

BANK DETAILS (WITHIN INDIA)

Name of Account Holder: SOCIETY FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

Address: Sector 26, Chandigarh

Bank Account Number: 10506615304

Account Type: Saving Account

IFSC Code: SBIN0003246

MICR Code: 160002014

Bank Name: State Bank of India Branch: Sector 7, Chandigarh

Phone Number: 9815507317, Contact Numbers: 0172-2793958, 2791154

E-mail: blind_institute_chd@yahoo.com

PAN Number: AABTS8917R

FOR DONATIONS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, FOREIGN DIVISION (FCRA WING)

Name of Account Holder: SOCIETY FOR THE CARE OF THE BLIND

Address: Sector 26, Chandigarh (India)

Bank Account Number: 40241599204

Account Type: FCRA Saving Bank Account

IFSC Code: SBIN0000691

MICR Code: 110002087

SWIFT Code: SBININBB104

Bank Name: State Bank of India Branch: New Delhi Main Branch, 11 Sansad Marg, New Delhi – 110001 (Branch Code: 00691)

Phone Number: 9815507317, Contact Numbers: 0172-2793958, 2791154

E-mail: blind_institute_chd@yahoo.com

PAN Number: AABTS8917R

FCRA Registration Number: 291420073



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



RPwD ACT, 2016

RIGHTS • DIGNITY • INCLUSION

Empowering Persons with
Disabilities, Ensuring
Equal Opportunities



INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND

run under the aegis of

SOCIETY FOR THE CARE OF BLIND

SECTOR-26, CHANDIGARH

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