

**Help the Blind  
Foundation**



# NEWSLETTER

PIONEER IN HIGHER EDUCATION FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED



## Hong Kong Luncheon, Dec, 5th, 2023

For Videos, Check out::  
<https://shorturl.at/jMUZ7>

Help The Blind Foundation Hong Kong organized a meaningful luncheon at the Hotel Holiday Inn in Hong Kong on December 5th, bringing together generous donors and well-wishers in support of their cause. The event witnessed a robust turnout, with numerous donors and well-wishers in attendance. Notably, two Trustees from India flew in to actively participate in the proceedings, underlining the global reach and commitment of the Foundation.

During the gathering, the Foundation provided a comprehensive overview of its impactful activities. Mr. Nataraj, one of the Trustees, delivered a concise yet insightful presentation on the diverse aspects of visual impairment. He eloquently portrayed the daily challenges faced by individuals with visual impairments, shedding light on societal perspectives and emphasizing the Foundation's efforts to reshape attitudes, particularly at the employer level, through awareness sessions. Mr. Nataraj went on to introduce the EMET skills training program, connecting the audience to a live class in Nagpur, India. This interactive session allowed guests to engage with students, offering them a firsthand experience of the program's impact. The significance of assistive devices, especially laptops, in the lives of visually impaired individuals was highlighted. Thanks to the generous support of donors, the Foundation has been distributing laptops to visually impaired students, fostering independence, particularly in education and employment. In a notable development, Mr Nataraj introduced the Smart Vision Glass (SVG), one of the latest assistive devices. Utilizing artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML), the SVG empowers visually impaired individuals to read text, recognize persons, navigate with reasonable autonomy, and seek emergency assistance. The guests were visibly impressed with the SVG's advanced features, acknowledging and appreciating HTBF's dedication to enhancing accessibility through innovative solutions.

Mr Nataraj also touched upon HTBF's unwavering commitment to facilitating employment opportunities for visually impaired graduates, overcoming challenges such as employer apathy and lack of awareness. Despite these obstacles, HTBF continues to succeed in its mission, exemplifying resilience and determination.

The luncheon served as a platform to not only express gratitude to donors but also to showcase the tangible impact of their contributions in empowering the visually impaired community. HTBF's commitment to fostering independence, changing societal perceptions, and embracing innovative solutions was well-received and applauded by the attendees.



Laptop distribution ceremony for the incoming 2023-25 EMET batch students held at Dr. Ambedkar College, Nagpur, with Brigadier Anand serving as the Chief Guest



Some snapshots from the event involving the distribution of laptops and SVGs at St. Edmunds College, Shillong, on October 6th

## SVG distribution at Devnar College, Hyderabad



BY





## Meet Mansi Tyagi, our proud student...

Mansi, a visually-impaired student of S P MUKHERJI College, (completed her graduation from Miranda House) Delhi University was recently appointed as steno in ESIC (Employment State Insurance Corporation) at Rajendra Place, Delhi.

*She sent us this beautiful note of thanks! Our gratitude and best wishes to Mansi!*

Greetings Everyone!

I am thrilled to share that I, Mansi Tyagi, am currently serving in the role of Stenographer at ESIC (Employment State Insurance Corporation) in the Regional Office at Rajendra Place, Delhi. My journey has been adorned with meaningful experiences, and I am excited to express my deep gratitude and acknowledgement.

Firstly, my heartfelt thanks go out to the Help the Blind Foundation (HTBF) for their invaluable scholarship, which aided me immensely in pursuing my education. It is through such support and generosity that individuals like me are empowered to achieve our dreams and aspirations. I am equally grateful for the opportunities to attend HTBF's EMET (Education, Mobility & Employment Training) program and Chiranthana classes. These platforms have been instrumental in refining my skills, particularly in spoken English, navigating the internet, and nurturing my personal development. The knowledge and growth I have attained through these avenues have been invaluable in shaping my professional journey and expanding my capabilities.

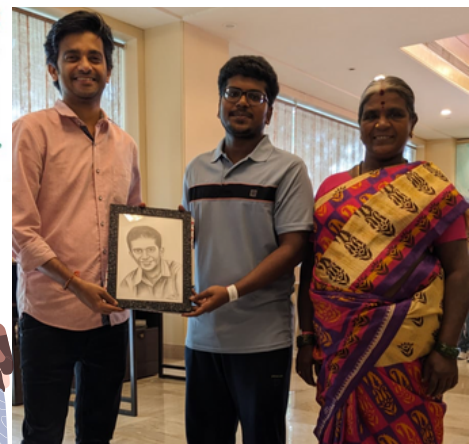
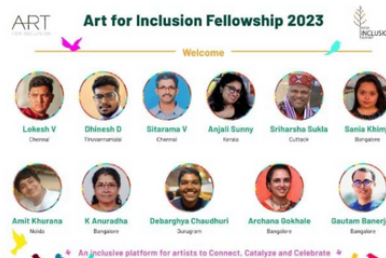
As I reflect on these experiences, I am filled with profound appreciation for the unwavering support, guidance, and resources that have propelled me forward. I eagerly anticipate continuing this journey with passion and dedication, seeking to contribute my best to the endeavours I undertake. Here's to the spirit of growth, gratitude, and continuous learning as we embrace the present and aspire towards a brighter future together.

Warm regards,  
Mansi Tyagi



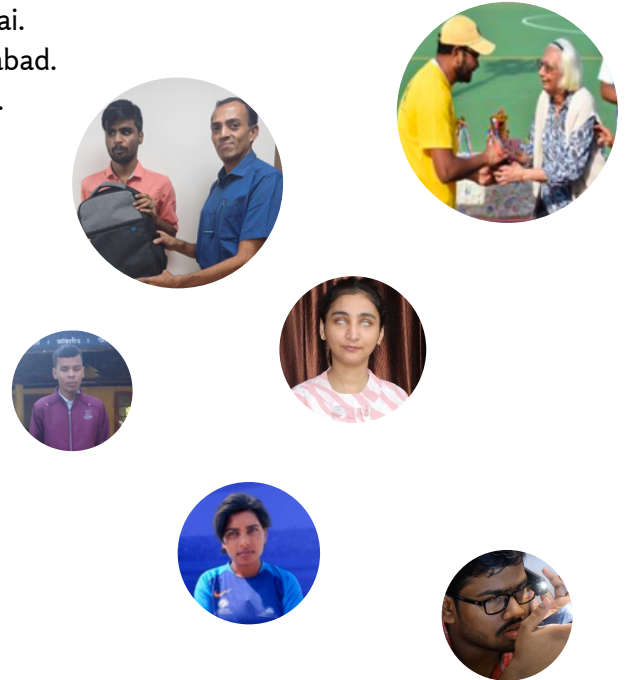
Pleased to share that Dinesh, our accomplished VI artist, known for securing orders through our contacts and volunteers, has been chosen for the Art for Inclusion Fellowship. The event's special guest was Vilas Nayak, renowned speed painter, and winner of Asia's Got Talent and India's Got Talent. Dinesh also says, "He is an artist who inspires me greatly. I had the privilege of presenting him with a token of my affection along with my mother."

"Walking with a friend in the dark is better than walking alone in the light" - Helen Keller



## CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE STUDENTS

- Swathy and Padmavathy got placed in the Indian Postal Department with the efforts and help of HTBF.
- Prasanta, a dedicated EMET student from Dr. BRAC College, BA 1st year, secured a position as a Group D employee in a government school in Assam, overcoming challenges in his village.
- Vignesh, currently pursuing MA in International Relations at Loyola College Chennai, worked as an intern with the US Consulate and is set to travel to the U.S in February 2024 for an assignment related to US Consular affairs.
- Somesh Kr Pandey serves in Vayu Sena at R K Puram as LDC and is also an international cricket player.
- Satish Ukey works as an IDBI executive and has also been successful in SSC MTS and Railway Group D.
- Kavita Nandanwar is working as an assistant at NABARD Mumbai.
- Karishma Rehpade holds the position of Assistant at FCI Hyderabad.
- Manisha Chandekar is associated with the Central Bank of India.
- Akshay More serves as an RBI office attendant.
- Mangesh Vanjari secured a position as an SBI clerk.
- Pranjali Aanbekar is employed as an SBI clerk.
- Ravi Bisen is employed in the Railway Group D.
- Atul Harode works as a Clerk at BOI Ramtek.
- Abhishek is employed with Income Tax in Bangalore.
- Krishan works in the Income Tax office.
- Mukul is associated with Income Tax in Gauhati.
- Makhan S works at the National Survey of India in Hyderabad.
- Pushpa serves in the Central Bank of India.
- Deep Kr is employed in Railways.
- Satya Prakash and Rakesh Kr are also working in Railways.
- Hemlata works with SSC MTS in Defense at Pune.



## WELCOMING THE NEW VOLUNTEERS AND JOINEES

- We are pleased to announce the addition of Ms Adhira Gera to HTBF in the role of Product Management Consultant. Please join us in welcoming her to the team.
- We are pleased to announce the addition of the following volunteers:
  - Rajan Gupta from Vadodara,
  - Kala Raman from Delhi,
  - D K Purohit from Jodhpur,
  - Anashritha from Chennai,
  - Suchitra from Chennai,
  - Vasudha Ramamurthi from Bangalore,
  - P K Jain from Indore,
  - D M Ranwha from Indore,
  - Mukesh Kumar Aharwal from Indore,
  - Radhika Sathya from the U.K.,
  - Bhavani Munamarti from the U.S.,
  - Jairam and Vani from Hong Kong,
  - Senthil & Sharanya Jayadev from London,
  - Bhuvana Sri Ganesh from Singapore,
  - Vignesh Rajasekaran from Singapore.



# Thank you for your support



## BECOME A PART OF THE MOVEMENT



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[www.HelpTheBlindFoundation.org](http://www.HelpTheBlindFoundation.org)

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Helen Keller