



Hello Friend!

Welcome to the December edition of **Samvaad!**

On December 3rd, the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, organisations & communities worldwide came together to celebrate and advocate for the rights and well-being of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). Through our **ARISE+** and **SMART+** programs, we have prioritised quality education and diverse learning and skilling opportunities for children and youth with disabilities.

The programs have brought us closer to understanding the immense potential of the students. We have included interactive science labs, sports, music classes, art and theatre sessions, set up sensory gardens in Kolkata, Mumbai and Nagpur for children with visual impairment in our ARISE+ projects. This year, one of our ARISE+ alumni **Dinesh** made the nation proud with two podium finishes in the **Berlin Special Olympics 2023** with the Indian swimming team.

We invite you to experience **'Khwaab'**, a moving musical performance, where our students with visual impairment share the story of their dreams. From writing to composition, the students showcase their powerful musical expression with the support of Anhad Band and Manzil Mystics!

From releasing a new Compendium for caregivers to inaugurating a new ARISE+ project in Visakhapatnam, we have more stories for you.

[Explore more below!](#)

Khwaab



"Amra shobai swopno dekhi (We all aspire to dream)....."

Students from Calcutta Blind School (Kolkata) and Silver Linings (Delhi) ARISE+ projects have always amazed us with their singing talent. In collaboration with Manzil Mystics & Anhad Band, we are excited to present before you the story of their dreams, and determination through this music project. Do watch and share with us your thoughts!

[Watch here](#)

STEM Lab for Young Learners



We have teamed up with Tan90 to establish **Natkhat STEM Lab**, which would give early exposure to the students to build a scientific temper. Two of these Labs have been set up in Ashray Akruiti (Hyderabad), Noida Deaf Society (Delhi NCR) ARISE+ projects, where our priority is to make STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) education accessible, fun and engaging for the children with speech with hearing impairments. The teachers have undergone extensive training to help the students with practical hands-on experiences. The Labs are now helping the students grasp classroom concepts with greater ease.

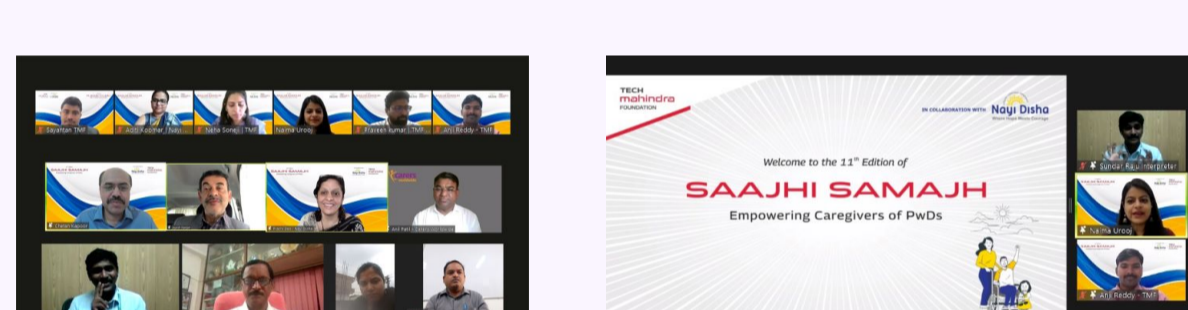
A Compendium for Caregivers of PwDs



Joining hands with Nayi Disha, we have launched a compendium to support caregivers of Persons with Disabilities in Telangana. This comprehensive resource hub is designed to bridge information gaps, empower caregivers, and promote self-advocacy and independence for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). This was launched during the Saajhi Samajh event.

[Read here](#)

TMF Corner



Saajhi Samajh 11.0 Focused on the Caregivers of PwDs

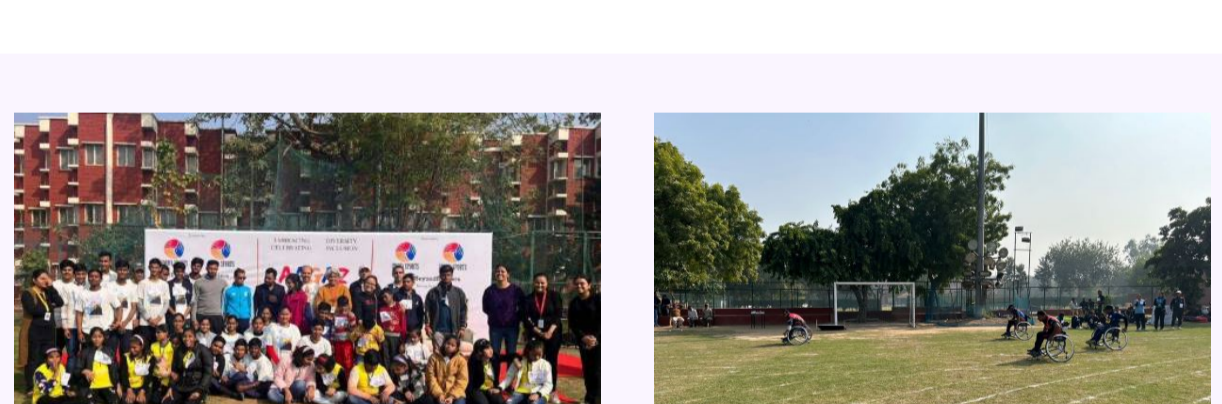
Our Saajhi Samajh 11.0 in collaboration with Nayi Disha was organised on the theme of "Empowering Caregivers of Persons with Disabilities". The **compendium** to support caregivers of Persons with Disabilities in Telangana was released during the event. The panelists discussed various aspects of caregiving and the need to have an ecosystem to support their well-being. Jayesh Ranjan, Principal Secretary IT & I&C, Government of Telangana, was the keynote speaker in the discussion, moderated by Prachi Deo, Founder and Executive Director of Nayi Disha.

[Watch here](#)



New ARISE+ Project for Students with Visual Impairment in Visakhapatnam

TMF's first ARISE+ project in Visakhapatnam was launched with Jeeyar Educational Trust. This project would positively impact 130 children with visual impairment in "Nethra Vidyalaya."



Inclusive Sports Festival at Modern School, Delhi

Children from TMF's ARISE+ Partner Organisations and others participated in a Sports Festival at Modern School, Barakhamba Road, Delhi, in collaboration with Umoya Sports. Tech Mahindra Volunteers also joined in to make the event a success. The Umoya Sports Foundation has been actively engaged in organising sports activities for the students of the ASTHA ARISE+ project.



Sports Week Celebration in Ankur Vidyamandir ARISE+ School, Pune

Over three days, students actively took part in board games, Kabbadi and Foot Cricket at Ankur Vidyamandir ARISE+ school. All competitions were thoughtfully designed to be inclusive. The Sports Week, led to an atmosphere of shared accomplishment and camaraderie among all.

Impact Spotlight



TMF CEO Chetan Kapoor Interacts with Pankaj Shelar, a student of TEACH

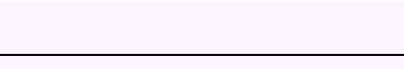
Watch this heartwarming interaction between our CEO, Chetan Kapoor, and Pankaj Shelar, a student with speech and hearing impairment from **TEACH**, our ARISE+ partner. Pankaj has recently landed a job in Sharjah, Dubai, and we extend our best wishes to him for this new chapter in his journey!

[Watch here](#)

Interesting Reads

- [How to improve digital inclusion and accessibility for girls with disabilities](#)
- [Helping students with learning disabilities thrive in high-school and college](#)
- [PwD inclusion- language matters](#)

[Read here](#)



Samvaad is a monthly e-newsletter. Do you have ideas on what you would like to see included in our Newsletter?
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