



BLIND PEOPLE'E ASSOCIATION (INDIA)

Theme

INCLUSIVE EYE HEALTH

Experiences from West India

Introduction

The Blind People's Association (India) is one of the largest NGOs in India working for the entire continuum of services for all categories of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) ranging from early intervention, education, to vocational training, skilling, employment and advocacy for inclusion.

BPA is a multi-campus organisation with 15 campuses all over Gujarat and one in Rajasthan. BPA started its work with people with vision impairment but today is now a multi-specialist diverse organisation helping people from the 21 categories of disabilities. BPA also has three Eye Hospitals in Gujarat providing comprehensive services of eye care, namely:

BPA Porecha Eye Hospital, Bareja

BPA Eye Hospital, Bhuj

BPA Bellaben & Yogeshbhai Eye Hospital, Vatrak

Objectives

1. Discuss the concept of Inclusion
2. Discuss the need for networking and linkages between eye care service providers and disability organizations
3. Discuss how eye health can become more welcoming and inclusive
4. Discuss the eye care needs of children who have visual impairment along with other sensory deficits
5. Referral services

Target audience

1. Health care professionals (ophthalmologists, optometrists, nurses, ophthalmic

technicians) working in vision centers, outreach camps, PHCs.
2. Program managers, field coordinators, Public health experts

Expected outcomes

1. Increased understanding among the participants on inter sectoral linkages
2. Increased understanding on community- based solutions and strategies for making eye health inclusive.
3. Increased understanding on development of a community-referral system

Agenda

1. Introduction & Inclusion and Inclusive Eye Care

by Mrs. Nandini Rawal, Executive Director, Blind People's Association (India)



2. Needs of Children Who are Visually Impaired and have Other Sensory Impairments

by Mrs. Vimal Thawani, Project Director, Blind People's Association (India)



Mrs. Rawal and Mrs. Thawani have been working with the Blind People's Association for four decades respectively. They have wide experience of project planning, development and rehabilitation and have trained intensively in multiple and severe disability in India and abroad.

4. Q &A

Date and Time: 20 May, 2025, 1600 – 1700 hrs

