

# Vision Empower Annual Report 2024-25

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Organization:  
Report

Vision  
Period:

Empower  
2024-2025

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## 1. Vision and Mission

### Vision

To empower children with visual impairments through an inclusive and equitable school education ecosystem. Driven by the conviction that every child deserves the opportunity to fulfil their potential as per UN SDG 4 and 10 (Quality Education, Reduced Inequalities).

### Mission

To make STEM studies accessible to school-going visually impaired children, ensuring they learn on par with their sighted peers.

## 2. The VE Way

Vision Empower utilizes a multi-pronged approach built on four core pillars that address the educational ecosystem comprehensively:

Our theory of change is founded on research-based solutions that address all stakeholders of the ecosystem - children, teachers, school and caregiver institutions, and other contributors to the inclusive education system - with participatory design at its core. VE integrates play-based pedagogies and inclusive physical spaces leveraging state-of-the-art accessible and assistive technologies to create meaningful and inclusive learning experiences for all.

### Designing Inclusive Pedagogies



Creating and deepening accessible teaching methods such as the Ludic approach from Microsoft Research, which integrates play, fun, and experiential learning to make STEM and Computational Thinking exciting for children with visual impairments.

### Ecosystem Enrichment



Informing the broader educational environment through research and practice, to be responsive to the needs of children with disabilities through systemic partnerships and advocacy.

### Shared Resource Centers to Foster Inclusive STEM Education



Establishing Accessible Resource Centres (ARCs) as collaborative hubs to demonstrate and leverage hands-on learning environments equipped with TLMs (Teaching Learning Materials) and assistive technologies.

### Capacity Building



Strengthening the capabilities of the educators of children with visual impairment at Vision Empower, partner organizations and schools through comprehensive teacher training and professional development programs to

reach the goal of inclusive education.

### 3. Founder's Message



Vidhya Y, Co-founder, Vision Empower

We began our mission in 2017 to make STEM studies accessible for students with visual impairment at special schools for the blind. Our objective is that they learn on par with their sighted peers and create opportunities for them to aspire for and eventually achieve their desired professional goals.

We are happy to share that with huge support from the ecosystem stakeholders and schools, over the last eight years, Vision Empower has fostered a vibrant community of educators, volunteers and caregivers to jointly work on the interventions. Most importantly, it is the children at schools who continue to inspire us every day with their courage, willingness to learn and resilience.

Government approvals have validated our conviction and instilled confidence in our execution team to take VE interventions to every child with visual impairment in the country. In 2024-2025, the VE interventions have been embraced across 16 states, reaching over 12,900 students and more than 3,000 teachers.

To monitor the enhanced outreach and accurately measure the impact of the diverse VE operations on inclusive education, this year we launched a system for data collection from the field and deployment of real-time metrics on an interactive dashboard, leading to actionable insights. A detailed independent assessment across three states also demonstrated the efficacy of our interventions. This has also helped to reinforce our focus on digital training and teacher development for 2025-26.

In our journey this year, we made significant strides by launching shared accessible resource centers, Science and Math labs in selected schools. The Accessible Resource Center (ARC) at IIIT Bangalore, has emerged into a collaborative hub for educators, research students and teachers to come together and create innovative educational solutions for children with visual impairment. To support the remotest schools through the center, we launched the "Arc On Wheels" program taking lab equipment and programs to them periodically.

We celebrated National Science Day with immense enthusiasm from more than 1400 students across 70 special schools in India. Another significant milestone was the participation by teachers from special schools at the Computational Thinking in Schools

(CTIS) 2024 Conference, mentored by VE facilitators. They demonstrated inclusive and innovative teaching methods applying the principles of Computational Thinking for the first time to an august audience from across the country and delegates from other countries.

This year we also introduced a new initiative - the Vision 30 project, a first of its kind aspirational program to identify, inspire and support hardworking and meritorious students with visual impairment in high schools across India to emerge as role models pursuing careers of their choice. This was attended by 18 nominated students from 7 schools across 5 states.

We are grateful to our collaborators and partners who have played a pivotal role in sharpening and enhancing the quality of VE interventions at schools. Our wide outreach was possible with precious support and partnership with funders whose commitment to inclusive education inspire us and enable us to work in the remotest corners of the country. Our sincere gratitude to volunteers from corporates as well as universities, whose priceless contribution of time and effort make our interventions richer and spread awareness on inclusive education.

Looking ahead, we reinforce our commitment to our beneficiary schools, by establishing more accessible shared STEM learning spaces and enriching our learning content through accessible media and technology. We will focus on increasing the positive impact of digital literacy, assistive technologies such as the electronic braille reader Hexis and the diagram comprehension solution IRIS at schools across India. It will be our aim to leverage these in the teaching and learning of all subjects and provide holistic support through multi-sensory learning experiences. We also look forward to an increasingly vibrant nationwide Vision 30 program, for more recognition of the capabilities hidden among students with visual impairment in the country.

In closing, our deepest gratitude to each and every one who stood by us from the beginning. Your continued support reinforces our commitment to inclusive education, skill-building, and creating accessible environments which enable confidence and independence in learners. Together, we are reshaping narratives positively - not just for the children with visual impairment, but for society at large.

## 4. Organizational Scale and Reach 2024-25

### Direct Impact Statistics

Category	Count
Students (Direct)	6,155
Teachers	3,298
Volunteers	4,378
Schools	150
States	16

### Geographical Footprint

16 States Covered: Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, West Bengal, Odisha, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Delhi NCR, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Haryana.

### Interventions and Sessions Count

Intervention Type	Sessions Count
Anubhav (STEM Activities)	1,137
Assistive Technology	953
Computational Thinking	3,761
Digital Literacy (DL)	1,677
Early Childhood Care & Education	165
STEM (General)	2,919

Grand Total Sessions: 10,612

### Year-over-Year Growth

Percentage Increase in 2025 from 2024:

- Students: 206% increase
- Teachers: 212% increase
- Volunteers: 474% increase
- Schools: 111% increase
- States: 114% increase

## 5. The Four Intervention Pillars of Vision Empower



### **ANUBHAV: Student Interventions - Experiential STEM Learning**

ANUBHAV is Vision Empower's flagship experiential STEM learning program designed to cultivate scientific curiosity among students with visual impairments. The program encompasses several specialized components:

#### **Core Components of ANUBHAV**

##### **1. STEM Activities**

Hands-on Science and Mathematics activities that make abstract concepts tangible through multi-sensory experiences. Students explore concepts like density, magnetism, and geometry through tactile materials and real-world applications.

Key Metrics:

- 3,232 STEM Sessions conducted
- 500+ Tactile Models and diagrams created
- 134 Teacher Instruction Kits (TIKs) developed

##### **2. Project VICT (Computational Thinking)**

Uses interactive games to instill numeracy and computational thinking skills through the Ludic Design for Accessibility framework. Game-based learning plans are tailored to meet students' specific needs based on baseline assessments.

Key Metrics:

- 3,909 CT Sessions (3,638 offline + 271 online)

- 296+ Baseline Assessments conducted
- 70+ Play Plans developed

### **3. Digital Literacy Training**

Comprehensive modules teaching essential computer and internet skills, with audio tutorial translations in multiple Indian languages.

Key Metrics:

- 1,555 Digital Literacy Sessions conducted
- 8 Indian Languages supported (Kannada, Tamil, Malayalam, Bengali, Odia, Hindi, Telugu, Marathi)
- AI Tools Integration: Be My AI and ChatGPT training modules

### **Key Highlight: National Science Day 2025**

Vision Empower celebrated National Science Day 2025 with tremendous success across India:

- 70+ schools participated in Science fairs nationwide
- 4,000+ total visitors at Science exhibitions
- 1,400+ Blind Students participation
- National media coverage across various news channels and TV networks

### **State-wise Participation**

- Tamil Nadu:
  - 301 students participated from 10 Special Schools and Alagappa University
  - 1,600 total visitors across all events
  - 15+ regular schools and colleges visited the exhibitions
  - National media coverage highlighting VI students' STEM capabilities
- West Bengal:
  - 162 students
  - 288 visitors
  - 8 schools participated
- Odisha:
  - 75 student participants
  - 844 visitors
  - 15 schools participated

- Maharashtra:
  - 179 students
  - 355 visitors
  - 9 schools across Maharashtra
- Kerala:
  - 800+ participants (students, teachers, caregivers) across 8 schools
  - Science Day celebrations in multiple districts
- Karnataka:
  - 256 student participants
  - 21 sighted schools students
  - 661 visitors
  - 14 schools
- Telangana:
  - 1,232 students
  - 4 sighted schools students and teachers
  - 331 visitors
  - 3 schools

### **PRAGYA: Teacher Interventions - Capacity Building**



PRAGYA is Vision Empower's flagship program for training teachers of children with visual impairments, using inclusive methodologies to make STEM lessons accessible and effective for both sighted and visually impaired educators.

### **Major PRAGYA Workshops 2024-25**

#### ***CTIS Teachers Abstracts - June 2024***

Teachers from Vision Empower schools participated in the 6th Conference on Computational Thinking in Schools (CTIS 2024) at IISER, Pune. Out of 70+ research papers showcased, 27 were from special schools and VE, receiving significant appreciation from the 350+ participating teachers, educators, and researchers.

#### ***Multi-State Implementation - September 2024***

Vision Empower successfully executed large-scale Pragma workshops across three states:

- **Odisha Implementation:**

September 10-11, 2024, marked a historic achievement with simultaneous teacher training across 27 special schools in Odisha. This massive undertaking, conducted in collaboration with the Social Security & Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Department of the Government of Odisha and supported by SBI Foundation, demonstrated VE's capacity for scaled intervention. Another Odisha Pragma was organized in 24th & 25th of January 2025. During the event, SBI Foundation Chairman Shri Jagannath Sahu, Vice Chairman Shri Shashi Bhushan, Assistant Program Manager Ms Geetanjali Lima were part of the Pragma inauguration and interacted with the teachers.

- **West Bengal Program:**

September 25-26, 2024, hosted at the Department of Mass Education Extension & Library Sciences at RKM Blind Boys Academy. The program engaged 30 dedicated teachers from 16 schools, featuring the innovative 5E framework (Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, Evaluate). Evening sessions included Vivekananda's philosophy integration and guided meditation sessions led by Maharaj.

#### ***Regional Excellence - October-November 2024***

- **Karnataka Intensive Training:**

October 23-25, 2024, at NAB Bangalore brought together 37 teachers from 24 special schools across Karnataka. This three-day intensive workshop, approved by the Department for the Empowerment of the Disability and Senior Citizens (DWDSC), introduced the "Be My AI" app and featured specialized sessions on "Reproduction in Plants" and "Data Handling." Day 3 included Prof. Saswathi's session from Azim Premji University on "Understanding Maps."

- **Tamil Nadu Excellence:**

November 11-12, 2024, at the National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities (NIEPVD), Chennai, engaged 15 teachers from nine special schools. The workshop emphasized computational thinking, digital literacy, tactile creation, and STEM education integration.

#### ***Northeast Expansion - March 2025***

Montfort Centre for Education Workshop: March 18-19, 2025, marked VE's significant expansion into Northeast India. Supported by the Great Eastern Shipping Foundation, this workshop brought together 42 pre-service teachers and 11 in-service teachers. The program featured bilingual resources available in Hindi, Bengali, and English, demonstrating VE's commitment to linguistic accessibility. A highlight was the "Teacher Leadership Moment" where Tripura teachers led Mathematics sessions.

#### ***Sensitization and Awareness Session - March 2025***

March 17, 2025, at MM B.Ed College, Davanagere, engaged 190 B.Ed students in a comprehensive session about visual impairment, inclusive classrooms, and accessible learning resources. Student testimonials revealed deep impact and commitment to inclusive education.

#### **Pre-service Teacher Training Programs**

- Government College of Education, Pudukottai: 93 B.Ed students (January 29-30, 2025)
- Alagappa University: 92 students (April 22, 2024) + 27 participants in B.Ed program
- D.Ed Malappuram: 79 participants (February 22, 2025)
- NIEPVD Chennai: B.Ed 1st year Batch 3 (ongoing)
- Nehru Seva Sangh, Banpur, Odisha: 29 D.Ed Students trained
- Ramakrishna Mission Blind Boys Academy B.Ed program and Ramakrishna Vivekananda Mission Special D.Ed College: 56 Pre-service teachers being trained
- Kerala: Conducted a comprehensive workshop at Kerala Federation of the Blind Teacher Training Centre in Palakkad (March 13, 2025)

#### **Teacher Development Impact**

Our comprehensive capacity-building program delivered outstanding results according to the independent SoulAce third-party assessment:

- 89.3% of teachers found STEM instruction kits very useful
- 82.1% adopted more interactive lessons
- 79.2% reported significantly improved teaching effectiveness
- 87.5% rated digital literacy training as highly relevant
- 70.8% felt well-prepared to use technology to support student learning

## SRUJAN: Technology Interventions - Assistive Technology Solutions



SRUJAN encompasses research and development of assistive technology solutions at Vision Empower, enabling students with visual impairments to learn STEM concepts on par with their sighted peers.

### Key Technology Solutions

#### ***Subodha Learning Management System***

- 397 unique users in last 60 days
- 1,000+ educational resources uploaded
- WCAG 2.1 AA compliant accessibility standards
- Multi-language support in 8 Indian languages

#### ***Hexis-Antara Braille Reading Solution***

- 150+ devices deployed across all states
- 613+ reading intervention sessions conducted
- 500+ books and educational materials available
- BIBEK Program: Books in Braille for Education and Knowledge

#### ***IRIS Tactile Diagram Solution***

- 150+ audio files created for tactile diagrams

- 50+ schools equipped with IRIS technology
- Multi-sensory learning across Science, Mathematics, Geography
- Audio interface for tactile diagram comprehension

#### ***Advanced Technology Integration***

- AI Tools Training: ChatGPT and Be My AI modules
- Digital Content Creation: Accessible e-learning environments
- Cloud Platform Development: Scalable learning management systems
- Open Source Approach: Community-driven development

#### **ANANDA: Volunteer Interventions - Building Communities of Support**



ANANDA, meaning "happiness", is our volunteer program that channels the passion of individuals and corporate partners to support our cause for an equal education system.

#### **Volunteer Impact 2024-25**

- Total Volunteers: 9,936
- Volunteering Hours: 7,614
- Sessions: 96
- Tactiles Created: 1,500+

## Corporate Volunteering Highlights



### ***Technology Partner Collaborations - May 2024***

Wipro Engagement: May 7, 2024, saw 29 Wipro volunteers at IIT Bangalore creating Science tactile diagrams for the IRIS-Audio Label reader pilot program. The two-hour session generated positive feedback and demonstrated the impact of corporate social responsibility in inclusive education.

Cognizant Foundation Partnership: May 9, 2024, at Ideal Beach Resort, Chennai, engaged 12 Cognizant Foundation volunteers in creating tactile aids. Volunteers produced 14 tactile coconut trees and 16 tactile octopuses, showcasing creativity and teamwork in supporting STEM education accessibility.

### ***Microsoft Give Month - October-November 2024***

The Microsoft Give Month 2024 campaign from October 1 to November 15 achieved unprecedented success:

- Engaged 1,400+ volunteers across multiple events
- Conducted 19 offline and 13 online activities
- Created 491 tactile boards for enhanced learning
- Generated 4,870 words for building word dictionaries
- Produced 681 unseen passages for educational content

### ***CSG International Impact - December 2024***

December 4, 2024, marked a significant corporate engagement at CSGI, Pune, with 88 employees including leadership team members. The volunteers created 98 tactile STEM materials focusing on numeracy, number skills, and environmental Science concepts, particularly the water cycle.

### ***Additional Corporate Partners***

- CSGI: 4 events with 88+ employees participating
- Wipro: 1 major event focusing on environmental education
- Johnson Matthey: 1 specialized tactile creation session

### ***Student and Individual Volunteers***

- Christ University: 32 volunteers (96 hours) for Braille Day events
- Fergusson College: Intern partnership development
- Individual Contributors: 90 volunteers (310 hours)

## **6. Other Highlights and Special Initiatives**

### **Awards and Recognition 2024-25**

#### **Doing Good for Bharat Award 2024 – CSRBOX**



October 2024: Vision Empower received the prestigious Doing Good for Bharat Award 2024 from CSR Box at the India CSR and ESG Summit in New Delhi on October 16, 2024. The award in the category "Doing Good through Grassroot Actions for Education" was presented in the presence of distinguished dignitaries including Hon'ble Padma Shri Savji Dholakia and Health Minister of Karnataka, Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao.

#### **ATF Awards - Best AT Initiative**



Recognition for Best Assistive Technology initiative in collaboration with Cognizant Foundation, highlighting innovative approaches to accessible education technology.

#### **International Recognition - OECD-DAC Framework**

Exceptional ratings across all evaluation criteria:

- 5/5 for Effectiveness, Relevance, and Impact
- 4/5 for Coherence, Efficiency, and Sustainability
- Alignment confirmed with global best practices and UN Sustainable Development Goals

## Special Programs and Initiatives

### Vision 30 Initiative



Vision Empower, in collaboration with I-Stem and RKM BBA, launched the Vision 30 program in December 2024, aimed at identifying, inspiring, and supporting promising high school students with visual impairments from across India.

- 18 visually impaired students nominated by their schools
- 2.5-day residential learning camp (December 27-29, 2024)
- Location: Blind Boys' Academy, Narendrapur, Kolkata

#### Program Highlights - Key Activities:

- Career discovery sessions and psychological safety workshops
- Group presentations on life Sciences and Mathematics
- Birla Industrial & Technological Museum hands-on experiences
- Software programming mentorship by Kartik Sawhney (I-STEM founder)
- Career aspirations guidance and new learning methods exposure

### Curious Minds 2024



Partnership Event with Vividha Trust - November 23-24, 2024, Bengaluru: The Curious Minds 2024 event, organized by Vividha Trust in partnership with Vision Empower, Raised Lined Foundation, and Curiouscity, took place November 23-24 at ACTS Secondary School ICSE, Bengaluru. This groundbreaking event engaged over 100 students and 60 educators, featuring four simulated model classrooms, hands-on Science experiments, and an inclusive Science exhibition where visually impaired students demonstrated 30+ experiments involving light, sound, and fire.

### Children's Day Celebrations

November 2024: Vision Empower celebrated Children's Day with over 1,500 students across various schools throughout India. The organization distributed chocolates to all children, creating moments of joy while reinforcing the importance of nurturing young minds with love and care.

## Wipro Earthian Environmental Education



Sustainability & Water Conservation Program - October 2024 - March 2025:

- 7 schools across 7 states participated
- 32 certificates and medals awarded to participating students
- 36 translated Braille materials in regional languages
- Environmental awareness integration with regular STEM curriculum
- Rain water harvesting implementation by student (Aniket's farm)

## Technology and Infrastructure Development

### Accessible Science Lab Launch - January 2025



January 24, 2025, marked a milestone with the inauguration of the Accessible Science Lab at Louise Braille School for the Blind, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. The event, attended by SBI Foundation's Vice President Shashi Bhushan, featured student demonstrations of Science experiments using accessible materials. Eight students from grades 6-10 showcased the laboratory's impact on their learning experience. Two more Science labs (The Welfare School for the Blind, Ranipatna, Baleswar and School for the Blind) were setup in February and March. Total 3 Science labs in Odisha.

### Accessible Resource Centre (ARC) Launch - March 2025

Vision Empower partnered with Bosch Global Software Technologies (BGSW) to launch the Accessible Resource Centre (ARC) at IIIT Bangalore in March 2025. This landmark initiative features engaging demonstrations of assistive technology, interactive Braille reading sessions, and diagram comprehension tools. The inauguration included the launch of the ARC microsite and the Landscape Mapping Report, establishing a collaborative space for inclusive education.

### Flagship ARC at IIIT Bangalore

Bosch-Funded ARC Launch: Vision Empower partnered with Bosch Global Software Technologies to launch the flagship Accessible Resource Centre at IIIT Bangalore on 6 March 2025 with a Rs. 1.25 Crore investment. The ARC serves as a comprehensive hub.

Infrastructure & Equipment:

- 24 total events conducted in Q4 2024-25
- 15 volunteering sessions organized
- 12 specialized visits for various stakeholder groups
- State-of-the-art accessible Science laboratory

- Digital literacy setup with assistive technologies

Programs Offered:

- Design of Programs using Educational Aids
- BIBEK Program: Distribution of Books and Reading Circles using Hexis
- Demonstration and Training on Technology Solutions
- Special Learning Events and Competitions
- PRAGYA Teacher Training Support
- ANUBHAV Student Engagement Support
- IRIS Diagram Comprehension Sessions

### **Additional Infrastructure Developments**

Ane's Home ARC, Arunachal Pradesh:

- Inaugurated by Hon'ble Home Minister and MLA Itanagar Complex (November 7, 2024)
- VE materials donated for permanent installation

Kerala Accessible Experience Zone:

- 1 experience zone established exceeding targets
- 1 Science lab set up at special schools
- Interactive learning environments for hands-on STEM exploration

Science Labs Across States:

- Odisha: 3 labs across three different schools including Louise Braille School lab

### **Corporate and Academic Collaborations**

#### **VE at Wipro Education Partners' Forum - January 2025**

Vision Empower participated in the Wipro Education Partners' Forum in January 2025, showcasing innovative approaches to inclusive STEM education and establishing new partnerships for scaling impact across India.

#### **PIWOT 2025 at Jio World Convention Center - February 2025**



Vision Empower participated in PIWOT 2025 at Jio World Convention Center, Mumbai, in February 2025, demonstrating assistive technologies and sharing best practices in inclusive education with stakeholders from across the disability sector.

## **Third-Party Impact Assessment**

### **Impact Assessment Study by SoulAce Consulting (2024-25)**

A comprehensive impact assessment study conducted by SoulAce Consulting Pvt. Ltd., commissioned by Cognizant Foundation, involved 228 quantitative and 15 qualitative interactions with stakeholders. Key findings demonstrated:

- Significant improvement in STEM education and engagement levels
- Notable advancement in teachers' instructional techniques
- Validation of intervention effectiveness and areas for strengthening

### **Exceptional Student Outcomes**

- 93.5% demonstrate high confidence in STEM subject understanding
- 97.5% feel more confident in their ability to learn and succeed
- 91.7% showed substantial improvements in reading abilities
- 89.5% gained confidence in solving mathematical problems
- 95.2% actively participate in hands-on learning activities
- 87.3% report increased interest in Science experiments

### **Institutional Impact**

- 84.6% of school administrators report improved student engagement
- 78.3% noticed enhanced teacher confidence and skills
- 91.2% plan to continue using VE methodologies
- 88.7% observed better student academic performance
- 95.4% value the ongoing support and resources provided

### **Teacher Transformation Results**

- 89.3% found STEM instruction kits very useful
- 82.1% adopted more interactive teaching methods
- 79.2% reported significantly improved teaching effectiveness
- 87.5% rated digital literacy training as highly relevant
- 76.4% felt confident using assistive technologies
- 92.1% would recommend VE programs to other schools

## **Media Coverage and Public Recognition**

### **Microsoft News Feature - January 2025**

Vision Empower was featured in Microsoft News in an article titled "From civil servants to college students, Indians are getting trained in AI tools for work and life," highlighting the organization's innovative use of AI tools in education for visually impaired children.

### **Wipro Newsletter Feature - February 2025**

Vision Empower's work on well-being initiatives was featured in the Wipro Newsletter Samuhik Pahal January 2025 edition, showcasing the organization's holistic approach to inclusive education.

### **Research and Academic Excellence**

#### **CTIS 2024 Conference - July 2024**



Vision Empower's participation in the 6th Conference on Computational Thinking in Schools (CTIS 2024) at IISER, Pune, demonstrated academic leadership. Out of 70+ research papers showcased, nine were from VE, receiving significant appreciation from the 350+ participating teachers, educators, and researchers. The team displayed Computational thinking game setups, demonstrating practical applications of research in classroom settings.

#### **Microsoft Hope Series - August 2024**



Founder Vidhya was honored as chief guest at Microsoft's Hope Series discussion on August 22, 2024. The session, attended by 250 Microsoft employees, focused on the journey of impacting lives through NGO leadership, receiving tremendous appreciation and support.

## 7. Team

### Core Leadership Team

- Supriya Dey - Managing Trustee & Co-founder
- Vidhya Y - Trustee & Co-founder
- Sylvia Venkatesan - Executive Director
- Prof. Amit Prakash - Trustee & Co-founder, Principal Financial Consultant

Note: Vision Empower has a dedicated team of facilitators, educators, technology specialists, and program managers who work tirelessly to implement programs across 16 states in India.

## 8. Testimonials

### Student Transformations

#### Student from Tamil Nadu

"We learned these concepts before in our previous classes, but after doing these hands-on activities I'll never forget them again. Now I can actually feel what atoms and molecules are like."

#### Barsha Rani Nayak, Student, Odisha

"I thought we were playing, but now I realize that we learned many new things. The Science activities made everything so clear!"

#### Akriti Asrita, Student

"I came to this program where we are doing Science and Math activities. We are learning through game activities like market games. If it's possible, we want to come here again and again."

\*Translated from their local languages

### Teacher Testimonials

#### Bro. Charles, St. Louis Institute for the Deaf and Blind, Chennai

"Although it's early to assess academic performance fully, we've noticed a positive shift in students' interest in learning computers. The accessible resources have made learning more inclusive, fostering greater participation among visually impaired students. I would recommend this project to other special schools for its potential to provide essential resources and support."

**Hymavathi, Teacher, Louis Adarsha School, Telangana**

"I teach Science, Telugu, and English. Since partnering with Vision Empower, teaching has transformed for both me and my students. Before, I had to rely on verbal explanations. Now, thanks to the tactile models and instruments, students can learn by touch - like exploring the skeletal system hands-on. This has made a huge difference in their understanding and engagement."

**Sr. Rency TM, Head Mistress, Assisi School for the Blind, Kerala**

"The introduction of this project has had a profoundly positive impact on our school and students. The tactile learning tools provided have transformed how our students engage with STEM subjects. Previously, many struggled with math and Science, but now, with access to instructional aids, their interest and comprehension have soared. Our students are not only excelling academically but also gaining confidence through hands-on learning experiences."

**Parent Perspectives**

**Naseeha, Parent from Kerala**

"I've seen a remarkable increase in her interest in STEM subjects. Her English skills have improved, and she is more confident and active in her learning. During vacation time, the Hexis resources have enhanced her Braille literacy, and she now enjoys reading more than ever. While the project works well in school, additional support at home would be beneficial."

**Parent from Tamil Nadu**

"The shift from textbook-based learning to engaging, activity-based methods has sparked my child's curiosity and significantly enhanced his understanding of STEM subjects, especially Mathematics. His problem-solving skills have improved remarkably, and he now approaches challenges with greater critical thinking."

**9. Government, Funding and Academic Partnerships**

**Government Collaborations (9 States)**

**State-Level Partnerships**

- ICFOSS, Kerala: Joint technology implementation MoU
- West Bengal Government: Approved integration with state curriculum
- Odisha SSEPD: Partnership with Social Security & Empowerment Department
- Meghalaya Government: Commissioner for Persons with Disability approval
- Samagra Shiksha, Uttarakhand: Collaborative teacher training MoU
- Karnataka DWDS: State-wide teacher training workshop approval
- Telangana Education: Digital literacy lab establishment support
- Tamil Nadu Education: Science fair and curriculum integration

- Arunachal Pradesh: Hon'ble Home Minister facility inauguration
- Government of Tripura: Social Welfare and Social Education Department approval

### **Funding Partners**

- Cognizant Foundation India
- SBI Foundation
- Microsoft
- Bosch Global Software Technologies
- CSG International
- Wipro
- The Great Eastern Shipping Co Ltd
- And various other corporate and individual donors

### **Academic Institution Partnerships**

#### **Teacher Training Colleges**

- NIEPVD Chennai & Dehradun: B.Ed course delivery to 130+ students
- Alagappa University: Comprehensive VE course integration + MoU
- Government College, Pudukottai: 93 B.Ed students trained
- GITE, Malappuram: 79 D.Ed students participated
- Teaching Training Centre, Palakad: Regional coordinator programs
- Helen Keller Institute, Mysore: 25 D.Ed students trained
- Nehru Seva Sangh, Banpur, Odisha: 29 D.Ed Students trained

#### **University Research Collaborations**

- TISS Mumbai: Awareness sessions and research partnerships
- Christ University: Student volunteer programs and Braille Day events
- Fergusson College: Internship and volunteer development programs
- RKMBBA Calcutta: Ongoing B.Ed student training programs
- NAB India (Mumbai): MoU signed for joint programs and inclusive education

#### **International Collaborations**

- CSpashshala (ACM India): CTiS 2025 conference partnership
- DAISY Forum: International accessibility advocacy participation
- Microsoft AI for Accessibility: Global technology partnership
- I-STEM Collaboration: Vision 30 initiative and content development

### **Research and Development Initiatives**

#### **AI Integration Projects**

- Generative AI content creation for personalized learning materials
- Natural language processing for multi-language content adaptation
- Machine learning algorithms for adaptive assessment and feedback
- Voice recognition systems for hands-free navigation and control

### **Accessibility Research**

- Universal Design for Learning implementation across all programs
- Ludic Design for Accessibility framework development and testing
- Multi-sensory pedagogy research with academic institution partnerships
- Impact assessment methodologies using OECD-DAC evaluation frameworks

## **10. Looking Forward: Strategic Vision 2025-26**

As we look to the future, Vision Empower is focused on deepening our impact and expanding our reach through several transformative strategic initiatives:

### **Intensive School Interventions**

#### **Depth Over Breadth Approach**

- Target-specific grades in selected schools for maximum impact
- Role model development in each intensive school for replication
- Success story documentation for scaling best practices
- Peer learning networks among high-performing schools

### **Infrastructure Expansion**

#### **Physical Learning Spaces**

- 4 additional ARCs/Experience Zones planned across major regions
- 20 Science Labs establishment in strategic school locations
- ARC on wheels program for remote and underserved areas
- Mobile intervention units for broader geographical coverage

### **Technology Integration Enhancement**

#### **Advanced AT Integration**

- Next-generation assistive devices deployment and training
- Accessible textbook digitization of complete state curricula
- AI-powered personalized learning systems development
- Blockchain-based certification for skill validation and recognition

### **Teacher Empowerment Expansion**

#### **Comprehensive Professional Development**

- User manual development for each STEM/CT kit and AT device
- Curricular training courses with assessment and certification systems
- Accessible Science manual publishing for widespread distribution
- Induction program creation including VI awareness and STEM pedagogy

## Partnership Expansion

### Strategic Alliance Development

- Corporate partnership diversification across sectors and regions
- Government integration deepening at state and national levels
- Academic collaboration expansion with research universities
- International partnership development for knowledge exchange

## Financial Growth

As Vision Empower continues its journey toward creating an inclusive and empowered learning ecosystem for children with visual impairments, our future roadmap is shaped by a commitment to expanding reach, deepening impact, and fostering innovation.

### Annual Financial Summary

Financial Year	Amount (in Lakhs INR)
2022-23	₹ 337.29
2023-24	₹ 383.83
2024-25	₹ 761.73

Note: Audited by B P. RAO & Co. All our reports are available at all times and just a mail away. Email [finance@visionempowertrust.org](mailto:finance@visionempowertrust.org) requesting for any information on Financials.

## Contact Information

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Social Media:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/visionempower2017>
- Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/vision\\_empower](https://www.instagram.com/vision_empower)
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/vision-empower>

- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@visionempower>