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Facilitated By:

**The Accessibility Research Centre
Indian Institute of Technology, Madras**

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National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities (NIEPVD)

(Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities,
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Southern Zonal Meeting-Cum-Workshop

"Born Accessible Digital Production"

(AI Integration & Digital Accessibility in Learning Materials)



**21st & 22nd August 2026
CHENNAI**



Call for Nominations

National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities (NIEPVD)

and

The Accessibility Research Centre Indian Institute of Technology, Madras

cordially invite esteemed educational organisations from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana to depute/nominate officials and technical staff for this crucial event under the following

Nomination Categories:

For Day 1

Policy & Sensitisation (Day 1: 21 August 2026)

Focus: Strategic need and pedagogical impact of implementing Born-Accessible textbook production.

For Senior Officials of the Textbook Corporation and key SCERT faculty members.

For Day 2

Hands-on Technical Training (Day 2: 22 August 2026)

Focus: Semantic structuring, AI tool integration, and accessible digital formatting.

For Technical staff members or Data Entry Operators engaged in book designing/production.



Travel & Logistics

To facilitate maximum participation, NIEPVD will provide Travel Allowance (TA) reimbursement for state nominees in cases where TA is not provisioned by their parent organisations, subject to standard NIEPVD/Govt. of India norms.

Category	Eligible Class (Train)	Travel
Day 1: Senior Officials / SCERT Faculty	Up to AC 2-Tier (2A) or equivalent	
Day 2: Technical Staff / DEOs	Up to AC 3-Tier (3A) or equivalent	

*Officials are initially encouraged to claim travel expenses from their parent organisations. As the programme is engaging concerned participants for one day only, **no accommodation facilities are provisioned for participants.**

Fee

Program Fee: There is NO FEE to participate or to register in this program for nominated/deputed representatives from State Organisations. Pre-registration and confirmation from the organizer are mandatory.





Programme Objectives

- **Sensitise** policymakers on the strategic need and pedagogical impact of inclusive digital education.
- **Empower** state educational boards with the technical capacity to produce "Born Accessible" digital textbooks from inception.
- **Integrate** modern Artificial Intelligence (AI) workflows into standard textbook production processes.

Creating "born accessible" content upfront eliminates the steep costs and time delays of having to remediate it later.

आ नो भद्राः क्रतवो यन्तु विश्वतोऽदब्धासो अपरीतास उद्भिदः /
देवा नो यथा सदमिद् वृधे असन्नप्रायुवो रक्षितारो दिवे-दिवे //

- Rigveda 1.89.1

May noble, auspicious reflections come to us from all directions - unhindered, unobstructed, and triumphant. ...



About the Initiative

While commendable strides have been made in championing inclusion through frameworks like the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPWD) , National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, there remains a vital opportunity gap in providing universally accessible learning resources for persons with disabilities.

The "Born Accessible" initiative builds upon this progress by ensuring digital materials - such as textbooks and ebooks—are created with accessibility integrated from inception, rather than retrofitted. Psycho-socially, providing immediate, equal access to the same materials as their peers fosters dignity, independence, and self-esteem among students, eliminating feelings of isolation. Legally, it strengthens compliance with the RPWD Act's mandate for equitable educational infrastructure. By utilizing modern technology to establish universally accessible workflows, this initiative empowers all readers and transforms the shared vision of inclusive learning into a sustainable reality.

Ensuring equitable access to education for children with print and visual and other disabilities is a critical mandate under the **Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPWD) Act, 2016**, and the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**. This initiative is designed to support state educational Boards, learning material producers/publishers in their transition toward universally inclusive, born-accessible educational resources.





Day 1: Sensitisation Meeting-cum-Workshop

Date: 21 August 2026 | **Time:** 10:30 AM to 03:00 PM

Mode: In-Person at IIT Madras

Target Audience: Senior Officials of the Textbook Corporation, key SCERT faculty members, State Open School Boards and State Open Universities Learning Material production team leader. (upto. 05 from one State)

Focus Area: The strategic need, scope, and pedagogical impact of implementing Born-Accessible textbook production at the state level.

Day 2: Hands-on Capacity Building Training

Date: 22 August 2026 | **Time:** 10:00 AM to 05:30 PM

Mode: In-Person at IIT Madras

Target Audience: Technical staff members or Data Entry Operators engaged in book designing or production/publication at State Textbook Corporation, SCERT, State Open Board or State Open Universities (Nomination of 06 members requested per state).

Focus Area: Practical skills in semantic structuring, AI tool integration, and accessible digital formatting.



Participation Guidelines

Eligibility: Participation is strictly on a nomination basis for suitable candidates from the following States from the southern region of the Country:

- Andhra Pradesh
- Karnataka
- Kerala
- Tamil Nadu
- Telangana

Organizing Team:

Patron:

Mr Pradeep A.

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Professor & Head, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Madras

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