

Concept Note

Blindness Sensitization Workshop

Vision stands as one of the most important senses through which we understand the world around us. Its paramount nature can be realized through the fact that the loss of vision can result in not just a personal disability but also a social disadvantage.

According to the World Health Organisation's 'World Report on Vision', at least 2.2 billion people around the world suffer from visual impairment. Astonishingly, nearly half of these cases could have been prevented or are not addressed yet. India has a population of 4.95 million persons living with various vision impairments and our country has been trying to fight the same since 1999.

This workshop has been conceived in the light of this collective effort to sensitize people about visual impairment and to create an awareness about preventable blindness. It aims to provide a peek into the life of visually challenged persons through immersive activities as well as improve communication between sighted and visually challenged individuals so as to foster a feeling of oneness.

This one day workshop, held in person, would provide an insight into the best knowledge and practices to be followed with regards to creating a more inclusive space for our visually challenged friends.

Objectives:

The objective of the proposed sensitisation workshop is to:

- ❖ Gain understanding of the challenges faced by visually challenged individuals while dispelling misconceptions and stereotypes surrounding blindness;
- ❖ Improving Communication and Interaction Skills- "Do"s and "Don't"s to create a supportive and inclusive environment;
- ❖ Discuss ways to address preventable blindness.

Format:

This workshop is designed to be immersive in nature, followed by an interactive discussion/Q&As. The resources required for the same would include:

- ❖ A spacious hall, movable chairs, and benches/tables (2);
- ❖ A projector and sound system, if available, will enhance the workshop experience.

The workshop would be conducted by 2-3 facilitators, one of which would be a visually challenged person. The workshop would be for a minimum of two hours and is best suited for a group of not more than 40 individuals. There is no barrier with regards to the participant's background*.

Organizers:

The sensitisation workshop is conducted by Team Vision Foundation, a not-for-profit organization registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860 (F-76319(M)). Our vision is to make the world a more inclusive space for the visually challenged.

Your involvement through monetary contribution (for-profit organization INR 15,000/-, not for profit organization INR 10,000/-) would be highly appreciated. It is inclusive of travel allowance, resource person honorarium, and workshop resources. Please note that all contributions made to the organization are eligible for tax deduction u/s 80G of the IT Act.

*Certain activities may involve physical contact, movement, and blindfolding. Photographs and videos will be taken during the workshop for publication on our digital platforms. If anyone has concerns regarding these activities or media coverage, please inform the team before the workshop.