



**University Inclusion & Accessibility Cell**  
**UIAC-UTTHAAN**  
Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University  
Sector 16-C, Dwarka New Delhi-110078

GGSIPI/UIAC/2023/051

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2023

**NOTICE**

**Subject: UIAC Calls for Volunteers: Panel discussion which is jointly organised by NCPEDP and UNESCO New Delhi on the occasion of UN International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2023.**

As per the communication received by undersigned from Executive Director, NCPEDP, Delhi regarding the panel discussion which is jointly organised by NCPEDP and UNESCO New Delhi on the occasion of UN International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2023 under this year's theme of, "United in action to rescue and achieve the SDGs for, with and by persons with disabilities". The event will be held at the UNESCO New Delhi Regional Office, 1 San Martin Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi on 5 December 2023 from 10:00 to 12:00 hours IST.

All those (Students, Scholars, Teaching & Non-Teaching staff) who are interested and could not be shortlisted to volunteer for the DIVYA FEST can volunteer **Panel discussion which is jointly organised by NCPEDP and UNESCO New Delhi** and fill up the google form- <https://forms.gle/XAFQp8VqpLu4miCY6>

Last date to register in 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 2023.

Prof. (Dr) Shalini Garg  
Grievance Redressal Officer (Nodal Officer-Disability Matters)  
Convener & Chairperson, UIAC



## Event Brief:

### **International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) on 3 December 2023**

*Theme: "United in action to rescue and achieve the SDGs for, with and by persons with disabilities".*

**Date & Time: 5 December 2023, 10:00 am to 12:00pm IST**

**Venue: UNESCO New Delhi Regional Office**

### **Background**

Since 1992, the United Nations General Assembly resolution 47/3 officially designated 3 December as the annual observance of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD). This day catalyzes generating support and awareness for key issues on the integration of persons with disabilities. IDPD serves as a platform to foster understanding and promote discussions on disability-related challenges, aiming to increase awareness and understanding of the rights, needs, and potential of people with disabilities. Several of UNESCO's initiatives are targeted at disability. UNESCO provides policy advice to help its Member States implement international standards and report on their engagements on the rights of persons with disabilities. The *Learning for All: guidelines on the inclusion of learners with disabilities in open and distance learning* provide guidance for harnessing open and distance learning in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) in terms of accessibility, access to information, and education.

### **Context and Purpose**

In preparation for this year's commemorative event, UNESCO New Delhi Regional Office in collaboration with National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People (NCPEDP) intends to highlight its intervention at the intersection of education, gender, and disabilities. This is on the issue of UNESCO's initiative on [Menstrual Health and Hygiene Management \(MHM\) in India](#), in partnership with Procter and Gamble Whisper India's **#KeepGirlsInSchool** - to raise awareness on period and puberty education through school curricula and training. This partnership brought out five teaching-learning modules focused on varied thematic areas on MHM, along with a





baseline survey and gap analysis report. The coverage of these knowledge products is pan-India, with the baseline survey conducted in select seven states of India.

One module specifically addresses MHHM in the context of persons with disabilities. [Module for Persons with Disabilities](#) prepared jointly with NCPEDP, is a teaching-learning resource on puberty and period education for persons with disabilities, their teachers, parents, school administrators, and policymakers. It takes a holistic approach to creating an inclusive environment by covering several key aspects of puberty, menstruation, and biological, nutritional, social, and emotional health, specifically geared to the diverse needs of learners with disabilities.

The Government of India has embarked on various initiatives to ensure that MHHM is inclusive and accessible for all, including those with disabilities. Under the overarching policies for persons with disabilities (PwD), the government has implemented the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, and the Accessible India Campaign, striving to create an inclusive environment for PwD. Furthermore, the recent release of the Government of India's draft National Menstrual Health Policy complements these efforts by emphasizing the need for comprehensive menstrual health education. This policy recognizes the diverse needs of menstruators, including those with disabilities, and aims to create a supportive environment that fosters their overall well-being and empowerment.

These discussions will not only destigmatize Menstrual Health and Hygiene Management but also contribute to integrating a broader perspective into societal agendas, advocating for gender equality, good health, and human rights on a larger scale. Discussions around MHHM does not limit itself only to menstrual health, it integrates enhanced challenges faced by persons with disabilities, such as, access to essential health services, reproductive rights, education disparities, employment discrimination, and the prevalence of violence and abuse. It becomes vital, that, in order to strengthen our efforts towards the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda, targeted actions initially reach those who are farthest behind, ensuring that **#NoOnesLeftBehind**. By incorporating these multifaceted concerns into the conversation, the initiative aims to foster a holistic understanding of the intricate links between disability and gender, working towards inclusive and comprehensive solutions.



## **Event Brief**

UNESCO New Delhi is hosting a panel discussion on 5 December 2023, delving into the complex web of challenges faced by persons with disabilities in the realms of gender equality, education, and health. The panel will focus on issues such as access to crucial health services, the right to reproductive autonomy, disparities in educational opportunities, discriminatory practices in employment, and the alarming rates of violence and abuse experienced by this demographic. By broadening the scope of discussion to encompass these critical gender-related challenges, the event aims to spotlight the interconnected nature of disability, gender, and education. The envisioned outcome is a comprehensive understanding of the systemic barriers that persons with disabilities encounter.